THE LITERARY GAZETTE;

Journal of Belles Lettres, Arts, Sciences, &c.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 9, 1836.

PRICE 8d.

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

An Architectural Tour in Normandy; with some Remarks on Norman Architecture. By

some Remarks on Norman Architecture. By H. Gally Knight, Esq. M.P. 12mo. pp. 258. London, 1836. Murray. Apparently a slight and sketchy production, and relating to ground often and laboriously explored both by French and English authors; Mr. Knight has, notwithstanding, given us here a volume of great interest, not only to the architect and antiquary, but to the general reader, who will find many curious points of history and of taste incidentally elucidated from the stores of the intelligent and accomplished writer. Of these it will be our duty to offer a few specimens; but we must begin with a brief allusion to the leading feature of the work, namely, the dates of the various styles of Roman, Saxon, Norman, Pointed, and later architecture. Of these Mr. Knight truly ob-

"The best evidence is contained in the buildings themselves,—the evidence of con-struction and style. This evidence is a fact, and a fact of more weight than bushels of inferences, conjectures, and opinions. Against the evidence of style, the evidence of silence (often much insisted upon) is of no avail, for unrecorded ruin is, in any instance, much more probable than the real existence of an unpre-cedented anomaly."

Speaking of Jumiéges, he also says,-" The east end and the choir were rebuilt long afterwards in the pointed style. This alteration appears to have been undertaken by Abbot Robert, who afterwards became Archbishop of Rouen, and was buried in the church of the

Abbey of Mortemer, in 1230. An ancient MS. represents him to have entirely rebuilt Jumiéges; but the Norman remains, which are still in existence, sufficiently prove the inaccuracy of this assertion. Loose expressions of this nature, founded on truth, but exceeding the truth, frequently occur in the monkish chronicles, and have led to much confusion." Again, at Mortain, "The celebrated collegiate church stands in the town, at a short distance for the party of the celebrated collegiate church stands in the town, at a short of the celebrated collegiate church stands in the town, at a short of the celebrated collegiate church stands in the town, at a short of the celebrated collegiate church stands in the town, at a short of the celebrated collegiate church stands in the town, at a short of the celebrated collegiate church stands in the town, at a short of the celebrated collegiate church stands in the town, at a short of the celebrated collegiate church stands in the town, at a short of the celebrated collegiate church stands in the town, at a short of the celebrated collegiate church stands in the town, at a short of the celebrated collegiate church stands in the town, at a short of the celebrated collegiate church stands in the town, at a short of the celebrated collegiate church stands in the town, at a short of the celebrated collegiate church stands in the town, at a short of the celebrated collegiate church stands in the town, at a short of the celebrated collegiate church stands in the town, at a short of the celebrated collegiate church stands in the town, at a short of the celebrated collegiate church stands in the celebrated collegiate church collegiate church stands in the celebrated collegiate church co distance from the castle. How long had I wished to see this building! How much light wished to see this building! How much light had I expected it to throw on a long disputed question! But that clusive object, the origin of the pointed style, vanishes whenever you think you are approaching it." And, at the conclusion, "In the foregoing pages it has been attempted to shew—1. That the supposed existence of the pointed style in Normandy. in 1056, is a pure imagination. mandy, in 1056, is a pure imagination. 2. That the Normans, adopting the corrupt Roman style, gave it a character of their own.

3. That the Normans greatly contributed to the advancement of the arts in England.

4. That architecture performed exactly the same revolution in England and France, France having, in all the changes, a certain precedence."

Elsewhere we are told, "that the pointed style was adopted in France one hundred and thirty years before it appeared in England,

and nearly as much before it appeared any the windows, by enclosing two, or three, lancets where else."

" It is a curious fact, that the first appearance of the pointed style took place, in many countries, about the same time with their first countries, about the same time with their first reception of the knights of the Holy Land. This was the case in Paris and its immediate neighbourhood. The knights templar were first established in Paris about the same time that Abbot Suger began his reparations; and thus more conspicuous, they were soon turned one of the earliest instances of the pointed to account as additional ornaments, and capped style in Germany is to be met with in the chapel of Cobern, at no great distance from Coblentz,—if the general belief is well founded, that this chapel was built by one of the knights who accompanied the Emperor Frederick Bar-barossa to the Holy Land, and who had the more fortunate fate to return. Barbarossa perished on the frontiers of Syria, in 1190, from

imprudently bathing in the river Saleph. * *
"In the transition style of Normandy, the only change is in the shape of the arches; not in the spirit, or character, of the architecture. The pillars, with their Romanesque capitals, the mouldings, and the ornaments, are all re-petitions of those which are found in buildings in the round style. At the same time, it should be remembered, that elevation had always been an object with the architects of Christian temples, and that, as art had begun to revive, the masses had become less heavy, and the forms, especially of the pillars, had begun to lengthen. It has often been remarked, that the genius of the Roman style is diametrically opposed to the genius of the pointed style; that, whilst the former delights in uninterrupted horizontal lines, and is indifferent about rising into air, the latter thinks of nothing but shooting upwards. This is perfectly true, if buildings in the pointed style are contrasted with the classic architecture of remote antiquity. But as soon as the Romans began to build churches, they made the building a story higher than they had been accustomed to make temples; taking, not the temple, but the basilica, for their model. This change of plan introduced an increase of elevation, and whenever art was not in a state elevation, and whenever art was not in a state of prostration, architects made churches as lofty as they knew how. The pointed style, how-ever, containing within itself the up-shooting principle, opened further views, and added fa-cilities, of which skilful men soon began to avail themselves. The change appears to have first taken place in the vaulting, which appears to have become pointed (as at Blanchelande and Mortemer), whilst every thing else con-tinued to be round. The windows were the tinued to be round. The windows were the first to follow, and now assumed the lancet form, undivided by mullions. The very long lancets are the latest of their kind. The portals next underwent the change, which afterwards communicated itself to the arches of the nave, and, by degrees, to every part of the building. The new fashion scarcely made its appearance in Normandy before it became confirmed.

in a pointed arch common to all, and ornament-ing the space between the heads of the lancets with the figure of a rose or a trefoil. In the course of that period, external buttresses became more important. Now employed to divide with the walls the task of supporting the now healttent proper of the course habitual vaults of stone, the buttresses pro-jected further, and rose higher. Becoming with pinnacles and crockets. Progressive science called the flying buttresses into existence, that powerful auxiliary of the favourite object that powerful auxiliary of the lavourite object of the pointed style. At first the flying buttress was quite plain, but acquired ornament by degrees. The cathedral of Lisieux is a good specimen of the early, but confirmed, pointed style in Normandy. This church illustrates a remarkable difference in the pointed style of France and England. The pointed style, in France, always retained much of the Roman character. Single pillars continued to be more character. Single pillars continued to be more frequently introduced in the French than in the English churches. Pillars, instead of piers, usually surround the choir. Their capitals are much more studied imitations of the Roman. Roman patterns appear in the mouldings. In many buildings the only difference is in the form of the arch. This arose from the universal manner in which the old Roman style had been adopted in France, and the length of time during which it remained undisturbed. A vast impulse, principally arising from the vivifying effects of the Crusades, and in France, from the immediate exertions of St. Louis, was communicated to architecture at the close of the first half of the thirteenth century. The chapel which St. Louis added to the palace at Paris, was consecrated in 1245, and is an epoch in French architecture. From this moment, the principle of elevation rapidly progressed, and the pointed style advanced in successive stages of science and beauty. At the beginning of the fourteenth century, a change made its appearance, which has recently acquired the fan-ciful appellation of the Flamboyant, from the supposed resemblance of the upper traceries of the windows to the shape of waving flame but, after all, the Flamboyant is nothing but the commencement of the Florid, and, perhaps, is not distinct enough to deserve an appellation of its own. At first the vices of the Florid were not fully developed, and beautiful effects continued to be produced; but minute and elaborate ornament was, in fact, its real characteristic, and this gradually led to the faults of exuberant decoration. In the course of the exuberant decoration. In the course of the fifteenth century, the pointed style began to decline in Normandy. It became surcharged and obtuse. It lost its fine proportions, and, gradually, ceased to please. It lingered on till the beginning of the sixteenth century, when a taste for classic forms began to obtain, and the pointed style gave way to the revival of the Roman."

Of castles of the treating of absolute 2.75.

"The early pointed, of which the generic feature is the lancet window, undivided by mullions, prevailed in Normandy till the second half of the thirteenth century. In the course of that period, a step in advance was made in the pointed style, supposed to belong to the

[&]quot; Though priority in the adoption of the pointed style cannot be allowed to Normandy, neither can it be unied to other parts of northern rance."

be pure imaginations. Coutances, Mortain, and Séez, no longer disturb generally received opinions; and, after having relieved ourselves from the momentary uneasiness excited by the announcement of a new hypothesis, we quietly return to the established creed. The chapel of St. Julien, the older part of the abbey church of St. Sauveur, the abbey church of Mortemer, that of Savigny (begun in 1173), and various other buildings, sufficiently prove that the circular style remained in general use till nearly the close of the twelfth century. About that period, pointed arches began to make their appearance in Normandy, mixed, at first, with the round forms of the preceding style. The Normans, like so many others, are much dis-posed to believe that the new style began with themselves, and attribute its origin, as others have done before them, to the accident of intersecting circles; but this hardly appears to be a satisfactory solution of the problem; and, as the pointed style had already been introduced in other parts of northern France, it is not necessary to have recourse to a double discovery to account for its appearance in

Normandy.
"The Normans, adopting the habitual plan and the established style, rejected the meretricious accessories, and resolved to trust for success to the few great principles of strength, size, and elevation. The oldest of the Norman churches are the plainest, but the oldest aspire to dimensions which could not fail to command admiration. Their character is severe but sublime. At the same time, the Normans had the boldness to insist upon an addition to their churches, which is admitted to be the grandest feature and chief ornament of ecclesiastical buildings __ I mean the central tower. Towers had, fortunately, become an integral part of churches before the Normans began to build in Neustria, but the few towers which at that time existed in other parts of France, only adorned the western end; and, to this day, scarcely any thing deserving the name of a central tower is to be found in France beyond the limits of Normandy. No one will be pre-pared to deny, that the effect of a cathedral, as a whole, and the fine play of its outline, is chiefly produced by the central tower. Take away the central tower, and, in situations where the whole fabric can be seen at once, how tame the cathedral becomes! Size, elevation, simplicity, and strength, together with the central tower, are, then, the architectural peculiarities to which the Normans, as contradistinguished from the Franks, possess un-deniable claims; and, if the works of the Normans, compared with those of a better period of art, must be allowed to be greatly inferior in beauty and taste, yet, to be just, we must esti-mate men in relation to the circumstances in which they are placed.

Turning from France to England, Mr.

Knight says :-

Of the architecture which existed in this country previous to the introduction of the Norman, there are no certain vestiges. most competent authorities have decided that hardly any thing which can be proved to be Saxou remains in existence. Parts of a few churches, which have all the marks of a very remote antiquity, and of which the style differs materially from the Norman, may be suspected to be Saxon. Their distinguishing features are a ruder imitation of the Roman, projecting, instead of recessed pillars, and the combination of diagonal with perpendicular forms in the external ornaments of towers. Such is the case

eleventh century, have been already shewn to at the old church of Barton, in Lincolnshire, and at Earl's Barton, in Northamptonshire. The only testimony I can add on this subject is, that we met with nothing of the sort in Normandy.

"About the middle of the twelfth century. mansions, that were not castles for defence, began to be erected in England; and, independent of colleges, abbots' lodgings, and the habitable parts of convents, instances existed of domestic architecture. But it was long before dwelling -houses acquired a character bearing any relation to the quality of the proprietor, or were constructed with much regard to convenience.

Having devoted so much to the questions involved in the main inquiry, we shall now select our examples of the miscellaneous illustrations to which we have already adverted. The following, relating to Agnes Sorel, buried at Jumiéges, must dispel a romantic tradition.

"The epitaph inscribed on her tomb was: ' C'y git Damoiselle Agnes Seurelle, en son vivant Dame de Breauté, Dissoldun, et Vernon sur Seine-pieteuse aux pauvres-laquelle trespassa le neuvième jour de Février, en l'an 1449. The expression of Dame de Breauté, (lady of the manor of Breauté,) has led more than one French writer into the error of informing his readers, that Agnes went by the name of La Dame de Beauté, which, however, was not far from the mark."

An anecdote, touching the death of William

the Conqueror, also corrects a historical error.

"Ordericus Vitalis.—A verbal error in most of the copies of Ordericus, has led some authors into the mistake of representing that the body of the Conqueror was taken, in the first instance, to St. Georges de Boscherville; ad Sanctum Georgium is written instead of ad Sanctum Gervasium : but the whole context of the remainder of the passage clearly establishes which it should be."

At Fontevraud, our author says :-

" The abbey of Fontevraud, from its vicinity to Chinon, naturally became the place of royal sepulture. It stands in a sequestered dell, about a league from the Loire, and three leagues from Chinon. The church, of which the outside remains intact, is considered to be the one begun by Foulques, fifth count of Anjou, in 1125. It has transepts and five apsides at the east end. The more ancient parts of the building are in the round style. There are pointed arches under the tower, and the windows in the tower are pointed also; but this must have been a reconstruction. There is nothing pointed any where else. The capitals, mouldings, and ornaments, in every part of the building, are rich, elaborate, and sharp, as if they had been finished yesterday. The whole is built of the chalk-stone of the neighbourhood. Such is the exterior of the church, but its interior is unfortunately changed. It is converted into a maison de force, and all within, however beneficial, is repulsive. The royal tombs, in quest of which we came, are no longer in their original situation. placed on tressels in a dark corner, and disregarded, if preserved. We found the monumental effigies of Henry II. and his queen, of the queen of King John, and of Richard Cour de Lion. All these personages are in their robes, of which the drapery is rather stiff. The faces have been injured more or less by the andals of the revolution, but the face of Richard has suffered the least. The forehead is remarkably wide, and there is a stern expression of force and resolution in the countenance, that might well have dismayed the without wishing that similar institutions could

Paynims. It was impossible not to wish that Richard, at least, might be removed to the now more appropriate resting-place of Westminster Abbey

At St. Julien, we hear " the chapel is much degraded and mutilated, having been converted into a stable by the present proprietor. 'Cela fait une très bonne écurie, n'est-ce pas?' said the servant who shewed it to me. 'Cela devient utile pour la première fois.'

Calculating the expense of building part of the convent of Mortemer, Mr. Knight goes into an estimate of the relative value of money, which is well deserving of extract. The period is the end of the 12th century, and the

period is the end of the 12th century, and the sum, eighty pounds, on which it is stated:

"The Norman pound, and the Anglo-Norman pound, were of the same value under the Norman kings, and were always divided into twenty shillings; each shilling being then, as now, divided into twelve pence. All authorities agree that, in those times, the pound contained three times as much silver as at the present day, but they are by no means unanimous when they proceed to consider how much more three times as much sllver was worth in the twelfth century than now. Some estimate the difference so high as twenty to one. Others place it so low as five. cording to Hume, it is ten, according to Lyttleton and Henry, it is five. But, whatever may have been the case seventy years ago, there appears to be every reason to believe that the difference between the value of that quantity of silver in the twelfth century and at the present time, is, at least, as much as ten to one. We find, in Bishop Fleetwood's 'Chronicum Preciosum,' that, in the time of Henry I. (who reigned from 1100 to 1135), forty sheep were valued at one pound, and that a stalled ox was worth one shilling. In 1145, an ox was worth three shillings. If we multiply this sum by three, to allow for the diminished quantity of silver, and then by ten, the product will be four pounds ten shillings, a moderate price for a lean ox at the present day. In 1185, the tenants of Shireborn were by custom to pay either four hens, or twopence. Apply the same rule, and it raises the price of each hen to one shilling and threepence, a common price for a hen in country markets, at the present time. Evidence of this kind is more to be depended upon than the comparative price of wheat, in calculations which have reference to so remote a period; because the notices of the price of wheat in those times, occur very rarely, and the article itself, from the imperfect state of agriculture, and the dearths arising out of the troubled state of society, was subject to such extraordinary fluctuations as to render it, during that period, by no means a safe criterion. If, therefore, we believe that three times as much silver as the pound now contains, was worth ten times as much in the twelfth century as at the present day, we shall perceive that the Bishop of Seez gave towards the building of the Abbey Church of Mortemer, what would now be worth two thousand four hundred pounds."

We would recommend the subjoined to the attention of all those who agree with us in thinking that the means of acquiring really valuable information and instruction cannot be

"In all the larger towns of France there are excellent public libraries, arranged in spacious rooms, with salaried librarians, every accommodation for readers, and every disposition to assist them. I could not visit these libraries

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peaks for deed an venture t shrewdnes sprightline Novel in fluent in h fused every day, and in times when men's encouragement of such an object would be a wise application of public money."

And, at Coutances, "The present town is but a shadow of its former self, and the magnificent churches have little relation with the forlorn houses by which they are surrounded. There is no trade to give life and prosperity to the place, but even here are extensive public walks. No town of France is without public walks, which are a source of health and enjoyment to the people. How surprising that nothing of the sort should yet belong to any one of the provincial towns of England!"

Of the Bayeaux tapestry Mr. Knight

The object of this embroidery is to prove that William of Normandy had a better title to the crown of England than the sword. Half the tapestry is dedicated to events anterior to the conquest. Edward the Confessor is represented explaining to William that he intends to make him the heir of his kingdom. Harold is made to appear in the part of a per-jured interloper. But this is the account which is given by all the ancient chronicles, and, therefore, was not one intrusted to the wife of William alone. There are other objects represented on the tapestry which throw a doubt on its origin. Escutcheons on shields, which are not supposed to have been introduced so early as the days of the Conqueror, and allusions to 'Æsop's Fables,' which are said not to have been known till translated by our Henry I. At the same time, the veneration in which the tapestry was held is a proof that it was the work of no ordinary hand; and the frequent introduction of Odo, half-brother of William, affords strong ground for the be-

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every osition braries s could lief that it was wrought by one of the family."
With this we conclude, and have only to express our earnest hope that the distinguished author may return from a projected tour which we believe he is about to make in Sicily, laden with equally agreeable materials, and enabled still further to enlighten us on similar sub-jects, and on the remains of the fine arts in general, of which he is so admirable a judge.

The Diary of a Désennuyée. 2 vols. 12mo. Colburn. London, 1836.

THOUGH much mystery has been connected with the appearance of this work, and though it is a nervous thing to pass in review the printed sentiments of a real duchess, we subissively hazard on the Diary three opinions. Its title is well chosen; its compression into two volumes, judicious; and every one will feel pleasure — on laying it down. In support of the first, the world will at once allow that it could not have been called, "The Diary of a Desennuyante;" of the second, that, judging these two, a third volume would have contained no more absorbing interest, or serviceable information, than that which pervades her grace's production thus far; and the last peaks for itself. Our most noble authoress is indeed an extraordinary person ;—with wit, we venure to aver, equal to her profundity;

context, to convey the effect of such quotations as follow, so we can but leave their appreciation minds are on the stir, the easy access to books, in every part of the kingdom, could not but prove at once agreeable and beneficial. The senates to command"-" like an eagle in a dovecote"—" beauty lying in the lap of hor-ror"—" a local habitation and a name"— "a leperous distilment"—" an ounce of civet" -" sweet and bitter fancies"-" charity begins at home"_" sans eyes, sans every thing'
"" the prince of darkness is a gentleman"_ "let me take mine ease in mine inn"—"then retire like an oyster into my shell"—"to the vault of all the Montresors"-" the well of English undefiled "-" the wind and her nobility "-" damnable iteration."

Nor can we do justice to the French introductions, such as: "l'embarras du choix "-"mieux vant tard que jamais"—" preux comme Bayard"—" infiniment petit"—" le jeu ne vaut pas la chandelle," &c. Talking of French, what a fund of Gallicism this astonishing peeress has at her command! Will it be believed, that she has squeezed one thousand five hundred and fifty words of that language into two volumes duodecimo! Tibbins him-

self has hardly done more.

Carp not, ye narrow-souled critics, that her own tongue had stood her in as good stead. We tell you, she is a duchess. Ha, you doubt it! we will, then, set the matter at rest by an anecdote. In one part of her narrative, her ladyship visits, you may remember, Epsom racecourse, and, by the veriest chance, lets fall the fact, that Mr. Hanton glances at her small silver sandwich-box; a touch so true to nature, and so decisive of consideration, that we could have cried aloud, on detecting it, —" Go, sirs, beyond Greenwich and the Pool; observe those who steam it to Gravesend, and pic-nic it on Windmill Hill; and ye shall see them pull out their bread and meat from sandwich-cases of tin - the nasty things!"

Let us tell you, too, that it is not every one who is full of gentillesses, fraicheur, legèreté, agaoeries, naïveté, faiblesse, bienséance, ésprit, and persiflage; or who wears, not a purse, but a cassette—bears, not a grudge, but a guignon; who can scorn to begin with the beginning, and make it a point commencer par le com-mencement. Would not commonplace crea-tures simply go from the Tower Stairs to Calais, instead of performing, like her grace, a trajet? or, if they stayed at any piace—that her grace ever dwells in any thing but a that her grace ever dwells in any thing but a local) — would they make a séjour? Would they, when they wished to be sad, do it by an air abattu - when pleased, by an engouement? Would they faire evenement, faire fureur, or faire ses adieuz, as the case might be? Lastly, would they suffer, on the one hand, by tristesse, corvée, migraine, delassement, ennui, contra-rietés, and mèsentendus? or rejoice, on the other, under phrases de caresse, cadeaux, pâtés de volaille, succès, and marqueterie?

Avaunt, then, prejudice and cavil! and proceed we to confirm our assertion as to the wit of our distinguished authoress-a task only too easy of accomplishment. The first striking proof is given on occasion of "a never-ceasing call for 'Jane' and 'John' upon the stair-

be introduced in the principal towns of England; for in a country where there are so many persons whose circumstances allow them leisure, where education is more and more different context, to convey the effect of such quotations met with !" Subsequently, when the scene shifts to Liege, and reference is made to its salits to Liege, and reference is made to its associations with "Quentin Durward," by a sentimental "dame de compagnie," this lady is designated by a gentleman, as "the Bore of Ardennes;" and the same lady, some months thence, vents her sensibility in "Sketches in Prose and Worse"!!

For the sake, however, of arriving at the more choice bits, we will but hurriedly mention, that Rubini, during a rehearsal, "pipes with his beaver not up, but on;" and that, when a Mrs. Percy is reported to have eloped with a Lord Penrhyn, somebody cleverly remarks, "Well, if she did not go off, every one says things cannot go on;" and at once present a passage in Italics, which, we doubt not, is surpassingly brilliant-expressing, at the same time, our own admission, that the wit of the right honourable editoress is sometimes, like a finely wrought needle, so very acutely pointed, that we cannot even see its point! Well, the that we cannot even see its point! duchess felicitates herself, at five-and-twenty, on her changes of circumstance since childhood, and chuckles, for this, among other reasons,—" that she shall not now, as she did in her old aunt's time, need to procure a set of Pinnock's Catechisms, cased in strong calf, for the use and abuse of the school-room!"

Of the next witticism we take some credit to ourselves for having seized the spirit, although it is worded so as to avoid the eye. This peerless female, becoming pensive, envies the rougher sex their freedom " to rove through the wilds and tames of the world." Now, half the perusers would, we dare swear, be satisfied with the prima facie happiness of this phrase - so are not we. We have no hesitation in saying, that the duchess alludes to the river Thames! Ay, the river Thames! Mark the continuation of her apostrophe_"by stagecoach, malle-poste—steam-packet, ferry-boat; and carry with you that her grace is pre-eminently classical throughout her work. The Latin name for Thames is Tamesis, and Tames for shortness - and, of a surety, it is the

"Thames of the world !"

We have said enough: perhaps, however, we are bound to shew that the illustrious writer is as classical as we assume. This is soon done. In one instance, her ladyship's sister acquaints her ladyship, that " during her first spring in town, she must stand cap in hand, in the market-place, to secure the most sweet voices of the people, worth knowing." In other, her ladyship's self talks of "the golden pippin of Ate," "the hounds of Theseus," and "the dog of Alcibiades," as familiarly as if any body knew what she meant. The terms, moreover, the "Regent's Park, the Athens of the Bloomsand " Carlton Gardens, the Hesburians, perides of cabinet ministers, which shifts its occupants with every change of administra-tion." The last analogy was fairly too much for us; and we posted off, book in hand, to a friend at the Athenaum, and besought him to investigate the similarity with us, on the spot. The result of some hours' deliberation was unspeakable—and our readers shall have the benefit of it. Primarily, then, a covert allusion is made either to his royal highness the late Duke of York, who, on the top of the reture to aver, equal to her profundity; case," which leads this high-born woman to grante column, stands for "the dreadful shrewdness, striking as her originality; surmise that they are two slaves of the ring—dragon that never slept," or to the place of Novel in her citations, nice in her remarks, fluent in her French, apposite in her mytho-lically, to have played both hazard and the gardens, and on which is, in fact, sculptured kind. The late ministry are then clearly and beautifully typified in "the golden apples;" and we are reminded by implication, not only of the Peel which held them together, but of the destructive club which thrust them from

their high place!

We have now, we trust, vindicated the classicism and the pleasantry—the French and the originality, of this proudly bred consort of a duke: we may be yet allowed a few words on her shrewdness and her satire. The latter is crushing indeed! What supposititious reputation could, for example, stand one moment against such invective as this __ " I don't care for ****; his heroes are wooden—his stories lumbering; or for ****, whose soul seems always star-seeking in the celestial spheres. I don't care about ****," and so on? Which of the publishers, too, can read the ensuing passage with heart unwrung — "Every spring and every autumn, Messrs, **** and Messrs. head-and-tail-pieced, with foreign wonders, to decoy one into perusal and imitation?" Some

one has got it, with a vengeance!

Besides the different qualities of composition which this illustrious lady has enabled us to exhibit to the literary world, we must adduce a little of her raciness. She describes a cabriolet, then, which stands at her neighbour's door, as a "flash-dandy vehicle"—tells how curious a noble lord, who accompanies her to Bonn, is to see "a rum old church"—also how one man of rank says of another, that at ten years old he caught the small-pox, and became honey-combed for life. Then a dowager duchess, after completing the ruin of an upstart couple, is said to have doubled them up—and so forth. As might have been expected, with so high an order of intellect, the ducal Desennuyée is, in common with Percy Bysshe Shelley and Æschylus, occasionally difficult to comprehend. We are not sure that we grasp her meaning, when she remarks, that "the civic officers (of London) were formerly so eminent in their illus-tration," or when (talking of men of rank and fration, of when (tasking of men of rains and fashion) she states, that they are "distin-guished, furthermore, by the ennobling touch of the tinsel wand." And again, that others "belong to an order of society, which the Thurtells of our society are apt to designate respectable." Neither do we quite know how she "doffs the world aside, and lets it pass," or eats "an early obligate dinner," both of which must be curious feats to behold. Lastly, and the state of the representation of the curious leads of the representation. our limited knowledge of the vernacular does not supply us with the full meaning of pribbles and prabbles, malignations, ecstatified, exactive, and potterer. Nor could we, if called upon, explain what is the belling of the deer, a doat of a bird, or wearying for dinner.

But—though it were impossible to tire of

our prodigy of a peeress—we must cease to note her peculiarities; let us, however, add, that it will be long ere the affecting simplicity and truth of one of her observations can be effaced from our recollection _ " Heigho! what an infinite deal of nothing have I written down.'

The Birthday, a Poem, in three parts; to which are added, Occasional Verses. By Caroline Bowles, author of "Ellen Fitz-arthur, &c." 18mo. pp. 288. Edinburgh, 1836, Blackwood and Sons; London, T. Cadell.

THERE is a delightful home feeling about Miss Bowles's writings. They come to us charged with memories of the hearth round which we have drawn of a winter's night; or

a horribly menacing monster of the dragon of the garden filled with fruit and flowers, where we have played many a sunny morning, step and heart as light as the wind that lifted our hair. Her circle is in the affections, touched with their "familiar joy and pain;" and such a circle embraces the dearest of our hopes, the tenderest of our recollections. But we will criticise our fair author by quoting her. How graceful, how touchingly followed up, is the "Blessing on a child."

How graceful, how touchingly f
the "Blessing on a child."
"And the bonnie babe! on her
All your choicest gifts confer;—
Just as much of wit and sense
As may be hers without pretence—
Just as much of grace and beauty
As shall not interfere with duty—
Just as much of sprightliness,
As may companion gentleness—
Just as much of sprightliness,
As may companion gentleness—
Just as much of firmness, too,
As with self-will hath naught to do—
Just as much light-hearted cheer,
As may be melted to a tear—
By a word, a tone, a look—
Pity's touch, or Love's rebuke—
As much of frankness, sweetly free,
As much of frankness, sweetly free,
As much of frankness, sweetly free,
As much of freeling as will bear
Of after life the wear and tear—
As much of life——
Dut, fairies! there
Ye vanish into thinnest air;
And with ye parts the playful vein
That loved a light and trivial strain.
Befits me better, babe! for thee
Tinvoke Almighty agency—
Almighty love—Almighty love—
To nurture up the human flower;
To cherish it with heavenly dew,
Sustain with earthly blessings too;
And when the ripe full time shall by,
Engraft it on eternity."

n, how many answering chords wiem

Again, how many answering chords will the next poem awaken !-

" On the Removal of some Family Portraits. SILENT friends! fare ye well— Shadows! adieu. Living friends long I've lost, Now I lose you.

Bitter tears many I've shed,
Ye've seen them flow;
Dreary hours many I've sped,
Full well ye know.

Yet in my loneliness,
Kindly, methought,
Still ye look'd down on me,
Mocking me not,

With light speech and hollow words, Grating so sore
The sad heart, with many ills
Sick to the core.

Then, if my clouded skies
Brighten'd awhile,
Seem'd your soft serious eyes
Almost to smile.

Silent friends! fare ye well— Shadows! adieu. Living friends long I've lost, Now I lose you.

Taken from earth and board, When all were gone; I look'd up at you, and felt Not quite alone.

Not quite companionless, While in each face

Met me familiar
The stamp of my race.

Thine, gentle ancestress! Dove-eyed and fair, Melting in sympathy
Oft for my care.

Grim knight and stern-visaged!
Yet could I see
(Smoothing that furrow'd face)
Good-will to me.

Bland looks were beaming
Upon me, I knew,
Fair sir!—bonnie lady!—
From you, and from you.

Little think happy ones,
Heart-circled round,
How fast to senseless things
Hearts may be bound;

How, when the living prop's
Moulder'd and gone,
Heart-strings, low trailing left,
Clasp the cold stone,

Silent friends! fare ye well-Shadows! adjeu. Living friends long I've lost, Now I lose you.

Often, when spirit-vex'd, To your quiet faces, mute
Friends, would I turn.

Soft as I gazed on them, Soothing as balm, Lulling the passion-storm, Stole your deep calm-

Till, as I longer look'd, Surely, methought, Ye read and replied to My questioning thought.

Toss'd on the troubled waves,

Life's stormy sea; Chance and change manifold Proving like thee. Hope-lifted-doubt-depressed-

Seeing in part;
Tried—troubled—tempted—
Sustained as thou art.

Our God is thy God—what He Willeth is best Trust him, as we trusted: then Rest, as we rest.

Silent friends! fare ye well— Shadows! adieu. One Friend abideth still All changes through,"

Our ensuing selection will shew what we mean by calling her poetry essentially that of the heart and home.

> " Our Old House Clock "Our Old House Clock.
> Sweet memories of that blissful time,
> Life's dayspring! loveller than 1 a prime,
> Life's dayspring! loveller than 1 a prime,
> When, with the bird on summer morn
> That carolled earliest from the thorn,
> I was awake, and singing too,
> And gathering wild-flowers, wet with dew,
> I'll summoned home, old friend! by thee
> (Far echoing down our cowalip lea)
> To the dear breakfast board, I came
> With scattered curls and cheek of flame,
> All glowing from the fresh wind's kiss,
> One to receive of purer bliss—
> What was the balmed morn's caressing
> To that best balm—a parent's blessing?

And when the winter evening long Closed round us, and the cricket's song Closed round us, and the cricket's song Clicked from the clean-swept hearth, where Di Stretched, yawning out, luxuriously—The heavy curtains dropt—thrown on The hoarded log—the tea-things gone—The candles trimmed and bright—and we (A silent, not unsocial, three) In our warm pariour, mug together, Little cared we for winter weather.

Little cared we for winter weather.

There sat my mother—on that chair, Intent on book or work; and there (Just opposite) my father sate, Poring o'er task elaborate, All redolent—(his angler's books)—Of summer time, green fields, and brooks-Arrangement finically nice! Snares of all pattern; each device—Insects, with such ingenious art, Copied from nature—every part So perfected with curious skill, You only wondered they were still. Proud was my father's little maid, His nestling neighbour, when the aid O'her small fingers was required—(What ministry, like Love's, unhired?) And young sharp eyes, some hair so fine, Some feathery filament to twine In cunning knot, that, dettly wrought, Must be invisible as thought. The service done, a kind hand pressed Her up-turned brow, and she was blessed. And soon, old friend! thy sober tone,

Arte service cone, a king risan presect
And soon, old friend! thy soher tone,
Telling her happy day was done;
Down kneeling at the mother's knee,
Hands clasped, and eyes raised reverently,
The simple prayer was simply said,
The kiss exchanged—and so to bed.
Not soon to sleep—for fancies vain
Crept-oft into that busy brain,
At that lone hour. Some light and gay,
Of birds and flower—of toys and play;
Ambitious some—of bold essay
At lofty rhyme—conceptions grand
Of giants, dwarfs, and fairy land;
Or elegy on favourite bird,
Dormouse, or lamb (first giefs that stirred
The deep, deep source!)—and some of fear,
As, all in darkness, on the ear
Smote hollow sounds. Hark! hark! and then
How the heart throbbed !—and there agen!
What could it be !—a groan—a knock—
Oh dest! "tis only the old clock."

Snat I gla Rest Shad But: To v A bro Cont (Just 'You The The Eyeir But S When To sn Till S When And y Well

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Then, simple child, thy witless head, With happy sigh, sank back in bed, And, ere revolved the minute hand. The soul was in the 'dreaming land.' Oh! days, of all I ever knew, The happiest—ay, the wisest too—In that's weet wisdom of the heart, Our fallen nature's better nat. In that sweet wisdom of the heart Our fallen nature's better part— That lingering of primeval light, Not yet all sunk in sin and night. Not yet all sunk in sin and night.

Twill be renewed, that blessed time!

Twill be renewed, that loveliest prime!
Renewed, when we again shall be
Children around the Father's knee,
Of one immortal family!
Our portion each—(no more to part)—
Angelic wisdom—childlike heart.
Ah! wandering thoughts—ye've stolen away
From this dark prison-house of clay;
From earth to heaven! a pleasant track!
Too pleasant to be trodden back
Without a sigh. But, ancient friend!
Not here our colloquy must end—
Thy part therein I freely own
Subordinate; an undertone
Of modest bass. But thou art one
Too sober, serious, and sedate,
To be much given to idle prate—
So, to thy grave concerns attend, To be much given to due prate—
So, to thy grave concerns attend,
And let me talk. Ah, honest friend!
Sparing and measured though thy speech,
What eloquent sermons dost thou preach
When the heart listens. Wo is me
If profitless such listening be."

We conclude with the following simple and affecting incident : -

we conclude with the Ioniowing simple a affecting incident:—

"In a great city, Blacken'd and deaf'ning with the smoke and din of forge and engine, Traffic's thriving mart, Charter'd by Mammon; underneath a range of gorgeous show-rooms, where all precious metals, In forms innumerous, exquisitely wrought, Dazied the gazer's eye, I visited the gazer's eye, I visited The secret places of the 'Prison House.' From den to den of a long file I passed of dingy workshops—each affording space But for the sallow inmate and his tools: His table, the broad, timeworn, blackened slab of a deep sunken window, whose dim panes Tinged with a sickly hue the blessed beams of the bright noonday sun. I tarried long in one of those sad cells, conversing free With its pale occupant, a dark-browed man of hard repellant aspect—hard and stern. But having watched awhile the curious sleight Of his fine handicraft, when I expressed And toned by kindly feeling—for my heart Yearned with deep sympathy—the moody man Looked up into my face, and in that look Flashed out an intellectual soul-fraught gleam Yearned with deep sympathy—the moody man Looked up into my face, and in that look Flashed out an intellectual soul-fraught gleam Where have geed book, turned downwards, open Where have great book, turned downwards, open Where have great book, turned downwards, open Where have beyond it, close to the dim panes, A broken flowerpot, with a string secured, Contained a living treasure—a green clump (Just Durstling into bloom) of the field-orchis. 'You care for flowers,' I said, ' and that fair thing, The beautiful orchis, seems to flourish well With little light and air.'

It won't for long,' The man made answer, with a mournful smile Eyeing the plant—' I took it up, poor thine! " In a great city,

Di

The man made answer, with a mountful mile Eyeing the plant—'I took it up, poor thing But Sunday evening last from the rich med with the But Sunday evening last from the rich med ow Where thousands bloom so gay, and brought it here To smell of the green fields for a few day. Till Sunday comes sgain—and rest mine eyes on, When I look up fatigued from these dead gems And yellow glittering gold.'

With patient courtest. · It won't for long,

Mith patient courtesy, Well spoken, clear (no ignorant churl was he) That poor artificer explained the process of his ingenious art—I looked and listened, But with an aching heart that loathed the sight of those bright pebbles and that glittering ore; and when I turned to go—not unexpressed My feelings of good-will and thankfulness—He put hire. My feelings of good-will and thankfulness— He put into my hand a small square packet Containg powder, that would quite restore (ite told me) to duil gema doud pearls. Their pristine lustre. I received we provided the Profitering payment: but he shook his head. Motioning back my hand; and, stooping down, Resumed his task, in a low deep-toned voice Saying, 'You're kindly welcome.'

Abound not in my treasury; but there
I hoard with precious things the poor man's gift." The childish reminiscences of the leading poem infancy:" and Miss Bowles has preserved some of its softest and sweetest lights from " fading into common day."

Proceedings of His Majesty's Commissioners upon the Public Records of the Kingdon. Edited by the Secretary to the Board, &c. In our last notice of this work we promised a few remarks upon the propriety of reprinting Rymer's Fædera, and the discontinuance of the Collection of the Ancient Historians of England. We now fulfil that engagement, taking as our text the numerous passages respecting these publications contained in the volumes before us. Commissions, like individuals, have their respective hobbies; the new edition of the Federa, and the Parliamentary Writs, were the hobbies of the old record commission. It appears that Rymer had been so culpably negligent as to suffer a few verbal errors to pass in his celebrated work; and, although these errors have not been proved to affect the sense of the instruments in which they occur, and, if collected, would scarcely form a list so extensive as any one of the tables of errata which, to use the expression of the distinguished antiquary quoted in our last, form, or ought to form, the usual appendages to record works, they were, in the opinion of the commissioners, sufficiently unpardonable and numerous to authorise a reprint, of twenty volumes in folio, of a well-known work, and of which three editions already existed. This love of accuracy is beyond praise; and a person unacquainted with the subject might, naturally enough, conclude that all the publications of the board which undertook this work were minutely correct; he might, perhaps, be slightly surprised to learn they were not quite immaculate: but he would assuredly be petrified, if informed that the reprint of Rymer retained almost all the errors of the old editions, and that the ingenuity of the editors had contrived to perpetrate some new and amusing blunders. Yet such is the case. The instruments were seldom collated with the originals; and a mistake, committed by Rymer in the reign of Queen Anne, making a charter one hundred and sixteen years older than it really is, was carefully preserved by the learned sub-commissioners of 1816, although a reference to a charter-roll in the Tower would have rectified the error. Some new matter was, also, incorporated, taken in almost every instance from the Tower, and of which it may be observed that it is destitute at once of value and correctness. These facts have been so often proved, that we need not enter into any detail respecting them; suffice it to say, that when the present commission was appointed, the work was stopped, not because the board was convinced of the impropriety of continuing it, but because the plan upon which it was conducted were not approved of by the new secretary. Then it was that the true character of the book was ascertained, and its imperfections pointed out. The following proposition, submitted to the board shortly after its formation, conveys a fair notion of editorial incapacity :- " Measures appear necessary for correcting the errors, and supplying the defects, of such parts of the work as are already in the hands of the public; it is apprehended that this object may be attained • We fear that London could not at present produce a publisher capable of imitating the zeal shewn on this the transcript with the original documents, before the former are sent to the press, will not, it is conceived, exceed 1500l." The words in Italics would lead us to suppose that the business of collation is made, after all, a question of the summer grade decase of the Roman historian, the spirited exertions of Mr. Nicol would have completed a work, which two record commissions, with ample funds, have mismanaged and delayed. by the publication of a supplemental volume, the total cost of which, if care be taken to collate

are delightful. "Heaven is around us in our expense. Searches were made with a view to this supplemental volume; and it was discovered that in one year only of King John, "nine documents were added to one; that is to say, its bulk was increased 900 per cent." From this it is apparent that, had the work continued under its ancient superintendence, a supple-mental volume would have been required to correct the errors and omissions in every five or six volumes of the publication; and as it was proposed to extend it to fifteen volumes in folio, there would have been three volumes of errata to the set: the annals of blundering can scarcely furnish a parallel to this. Since 1831, however, no further progress has been made in printing. This, as before observed, is not to be ascribed to the possibility of the work being totally abandoned - far otherwise : piles of materials have been collected; libraries abroad have been industriously ransacked in search of documents, which might have been procured at the expense of a walk to the Tower or the chapter-house; and it appears that the secretary is only endeavouring to hit upon a proper plan whereon to proceed. Six years of deliberation, of talking and reporting, of doing and undoing, may, perhaps, produce astonishing results; in short, Rymer's own plan may be at last discovered: but it does certainly appear that Rymer's, if he had one, or any other plan, is to be taken on the principle of quantum valeat only; and to persons not addicted to over refining their notions of utility, the plan which should place new and valuable matter in strict chronological order, appears sufficiently good. To conclude, the only way to get out of the maze in which the Fœdera is involved, will be to publish a list of the errata in the six volumes already printed, and there to leave it. All the important documents which yet remain to be printed may form an independent work, as it does not appear that the value of them will be decreased by their publication under another title.

The want of a complete and uniform collection of our ancient historians has long been deplored. The last days of Gibbon were employed in devising means to obtain such a work, and the prospectus of an edition, in the preparation of which he was to have been associated with Pinkerton, should have appeared on the day of his death. With him died all hopes of the project being successfully executed, and it was con-sequently abandoned.* At length, in June 1822, the House of Commons addressed His Majesty, praying him to give directions "for the publication of a complete edition of the ancient historians of the realm;" and, in the November following, the commissioners on the public records were commanded to take measures to carry this object into effect. The result was, that Mr. Petrie furnished the plan of the proposed work, and was appointed principal sub-commissioner to superintend its execution. That gentleman's reputation is so great, that it is superfluous to remark upon the judgment displayed by the board, in selecting him for so important a trust. We subsequently find him assisted in his labours by the Rev. John Sharpe, Conybeare, and other distinguished scholars. The system adopted in the preparation of this work was an amplification of the plan laid down by Pinkerton, and sanctioned by Gibbon, commencing with the earliest notices of Bri-

tain, selected from the Greek and Latin writers, including the ancient Welsh and Anglo-Saxon laws, a collection of early charters, and the of Henry VIII. Under the auspices of the old commission this truly national work proceeded without much interruption, and a distinct grant of 2000/. per annum, was appropriated to dis-charge the expenses incurred. Upon the formation of the present commission, however, began a series of committees and reports, of letters and notes, which had the effect of retarding the progress of the undertaking. The commissioners appear, at first, to have considered that it could be done in a trice. When undeceived in this respect, they began to doubt whether it came within the scope of their authority; and they finally suspended it, when the first volume was all but completed. It is impossible to read the correspondence between the editor and the board, and not to perceive that the latter regarded the ancient historians as a sort of bugbear, to be got rid of at any sacrifice, whether of labour or consistency. Thus, the exertions of fourteen years, and the expenditure of 30,000/. have been nullified, simply because the commissions ers were persuaded to entertain a doubt of the propriety of devoting their funds to so useful a work; that such a doubt could have existed. even for a moment, when their authority to do so was a command from the crown, is truly surprising, and affords another instance of the want of reason and system in their proceedings, to which we have before adverted. Fortunately, the book has been pretty liberally distributed, in sheets, both at home and abroad, by whose authority does not appear; and, although it would be indelicate to offer any detailed criticisms upon it, in its present incomplete condition, we may assert, that it is executed in a manner worthy of the literary fame of the editor. It has been said, with what truth we know not, that the suspension of this work is owing only to a want of funds; we hope it may be so: but surely the commissioners were in fault, when they gave up the separate grant, which up to 1831, was applied to it. To whatever cause this strange proceeding is to be attributed, let us hope that it will be reconsidered; it can never be permitted that England—wealthy England—shall remain behind the other countries of Europe, in the noble work of rescuing from obscurity the monuments of her history. Far be it from us to advocate the principle of adopting this or that nation, as the model for our guidance: but there are certain points, originating in feelings common to all civilised people, upon which we may be agreed, without subjecting ourselves to the charge of imitation. There is scarcely a state of any consequence on the continent, which cannot boast of a collection of its historians, produced either by the patronage of government, the exertions of some learned body, or by individual enterprise. To the latter source only we are indebted for a few old and incorrect editions of our chroniclers; and it is well known, that one or two of the best editions of single writers have been printed abroad. When we cast our eyes upon the materials for French history contained in "Mémoires de l'Aca-démie," and similar works; upon the collections began by the Benedictines before the revolu-tion, and which are now in course of completion; we are forced to lament the insignificant character of our "Archæologia," and to confess that we have naught to put in competition with the labours of the French literati, who have supplied almost all the materials for the history of ancient and modern Europe. Un-

fortunately, we have begun at the wrong end. Abounding in general histories, we want the proper authorities and proofs, the sure foundations upon which they ought to stand :- an examination of the authorities of every writer, from Echard to Lingard, will shew the full

force of this objection.

How then does it happen that, with a government willing to encourage, and scholars able to execute such works, they do not appear? May we not seek the cause of this, and other evils, affecting historical literature, in the constitution of the commission, to whose care it is committed? We know that more than one member of that board is of this opinion. Nearly forty years have elapsed since the business of preserving and arranging the public records was deputed to commissioners. As the subject was then new to the public, and its importance not generally understood, it was probably considered that the best security for proper application of the money voted for this purpose, by parliament, would be to place it at the disposal of individuals, whose rank and station in society removed them beyond the suspicion of impure motives. It was upon this principle, to some extent correct, that the first board was formed. Eleven of the twelve commissioners were officers of state, overwhelmed with business; and the only member, who could pretend to the slightest acquaintance with records, or who had time to fulfil the duties of the office, was Mr. Abbot, afterwards Lord Colchester. Here then was the error: no practical men were appointed; ministers and functionaries only, whose time was otherwise devoted, were supposed to be capable and willing to attend to the arrangement of ancient records, and to direct their publication; no-thing could be more absurd. Would any government appoint civilians to regulate the discipline of the army, or generals to inquire into the administration of the law? No: such measures would be scouted as betokening insanity: yet, we find six successive commis-sions on the public records, formed upon grounds equally untenable. What was and is the result? A waste of the public money, and the production, by the old commissions, of some eighty volumes of printed matter, unparalleled in the annals of literature for their general inaccuracy; works which the Disraeli of another age may class amongst the most renowned instances of government folly and individual ignorance. The commissioners were necessarily obliged to delegate their powers to a secretary, whose opinion formed the law of their decisions; and, from what we have stated, it might be concluded that their secretaries have not been persons well qualified to advise : hence the improper selections of matter for publication: and the inaccuracy of these publications is, of course, to be ascribed to the indiscriminate choice of sub-commissioners or editors.

During the infancy of the record commission, so difficult was it to find individuals at all qualified to edit the works of the board, that a law bookseller was applied to, to recommend an editor for the projected reprint of the "Fodera." Under such circumstances, the commissioners were, perhaps, obliged to take such persons as offered themselves; and we are of opinion, that the remarkable inaccuracies of the early publications of the board, were not so much the result of carelessness on the part of the editors, as the consequence of the low

state of this department of literature, twenty years since; and, although the number of persons devoted to record pursuits, has of late greatly increased, it will appear, by our former reviews, that they are not always perfectly versed in their business; indeed, we strongly suspect, that not a few are but tyros in latinity, and it is evident they do not bring to their labours that enthusiasm and excellence of illustration, by which the productions of our rivals on the continent are so eminently distinguished.

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Had the commissioners been fully aware of the long experience required to fit a person for the duty of editing records, it would have made a part of their system to form a sort of school, for the education of young men in this branch of learning, whence the ranks of editors might have been recruited. Not that we advocate the propriety of gratuitous instruction; our idea will be better understood if we explain, that the transcription of the records for publication is executed by persons employed by the subcommissioners, who, in general, are barely qualified to perform their work with accuracy; nor do they feel that interest in acquiring a proficiency in their occupation, because they are at once badly paid, and dependant upon individual caprice for the continuance of their employment. To this class of people the commissioners have paid no attention; and the consequence is, that when a new sub-commissioner is required, and no one can be found in the Record Office to undertake the duty, they are obliged to call in the aid of a topographical writer, who may be presumed to know something of the subject, or a general antiquary. This plan has always wrought, and will always work, badly. The commissioners would do well to take a certain number, say twelve young men, into their service, who might be divided among the best of the present sub-commissioners, to be by them employed, and perfected in the several departments of arranging and transcribing; and they should, as occasion may offer, be selected to fill the higher employments under the board. By this means a set of efficient servants would be created, and the public benefit proportionably increased. But, to return to the constitution of the board; when the com-mission of 1825 became void by the death of his late Majesty, it was hoped that it would be reconstructed on a better principle: this, how-ever, did not happen; all the members of the new board were, as before, honorary and irresponsible; and, although two or three gentlemen, distinguished by literary productions, were appointed, their acquaintance with the value and importance of records was but questionable, as in their respective historical or legal inquiries they had made but little or no use of those already published. We are by no means disposed to entertain the idea of rejecting honorary commissioners, but we would associate to them two or three practical men, who should be paid for their services. If the commission appointed in 1831 had consisted of the chief guardians of the different classes of records as honorary commissioners; such, for instance, as the Master of the Rolls, the Chief Justice of the King's Bench, the Chief Baron of the Ex-chequer, and the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, the Speaker of the House of Commons, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, all being the legal keepers of the records of their respective jurisdictions, such appointments would have been highly proper; and all the records of the kingdom placed at the immediate disposal of a board so constituted: but, as it is evident the distinguished individuals above named would

^{*} It is a well-known fact, that the person employed upon this recommendation, had never seen the book before his engagement by the commission.

time to the affairs of the commission which the nature of the subject requires, one or two acting commissioners might have been joined with them, and, as in the case of the charity commission, paid for their services. Let us hope that the issue of the present parliamentary inquiry may be to realise some such plan, which appears quite practicable, and cannot fail to produce very important results. Independent, however, of any alteration in the commission, it is our opinion, that the study of historical literature will derive fresh vigour from this second inquiry into the state of the records of the kingdom, whatever may be pro-

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Since the preceding observations were written, our attention has been called to some injurious remarks in the Gentleman's Magazine of this month, upon our last notice of the commission. The writer of that article insinuates, that the censure we administered to Mr. Hunter proceeded from any other than pure motives. This charge, too contemptible almost for reply as regards ourselves, may be retorted with some effect where Mr. Hunter has been, for some years, one of the principal contributors to that periodical. The only mo-tive which influenced us in remarking as we did upon that individual, was, to use the re-viewer's own words, a desire "that the com-missioners should be no longer kept in leadingmissioners should be no longer kept in country strings, by the insignificant persons to whose influence many of their worthless volumes were attributed." We considered, and still consider, Mr. Hunter to be one of those persons; and, therefore, did we give the offensive article; caring little about the cackling of any coterie, for which we were not unprepared. The question, as to whether his works be com-Inequestion, as to whether his works be com-pilations or original, in folio or in octavo? has nothing to do with the point at issue—his re-cord scholarship. The old-fashioned maxim of "set a thief to catch a thief," so practically useful in many respects, fails in its application to literature: we cannot set a dunce to detect a dunce with any reasonable hope of success. For this very reason, the reviewer cannot discover a fault in the works of Mr. Hunter, nor could the latter gentleman discover the numerous errors in the works he was commissioned to revise. We repeat, that he has left twice as many errors in the text of the Rotuli selecti, as are entered in the table of errata; a fact we purpose to shew in a future notice, that Mr. Hunter was not a whit better qualified to read records some years since, than at present, may be seen by a reference to the "Furnival Charter," in his "History of Sheffield," p. 39, which he acknowledges to have extended from the con-"poor blunderer," we will proceed no further. We dare say Mr. Hunter is a decent plodding antiquary, and when he shall have acquired a knowledge of his Little was the name of his Litt knowledge of his Latin, may make a better editor.

Court and Camp of Don Carlos. (Second notice: conclusion.)

WE promised our readers a further taste of this volume, which, though occasionally a little flip-pant about the fair ladies of Spain, is, we have every reason to think, more correct in the main than we were at first sight inclined to take for granted on the author's statement of his neutrality. We were not at the moment aware that he was the correspondent of the Morning

not have been able to devote that proportion of | and it was a sufficient reason for him to undergo the hardships and dangers of the investigation, which we did not consider likely, had he been merely a curious traveller. We are, besides, confirmed in our opinion by the assurance of a very honourable and intelligent friend just returned from the opposite service, whose information squares entirely with that of Mr. Honan. Nor is he one of the disappointed and discontented, but, on the contrary, is again about to fight with increased rank on the queen's side, and, therefore, his corroboration is irresistibly trustworthy.

The original strengthening of the Carlists at the end of 1833, is thus accounted for :-

"Castañon was removed in consequence of his decided unpopularity, and General Butron took his place, who proceeded in the same imtemperate manner; and by levying contributions on the clergy, and exposing them to the insults of the returned emigrants, compelled a body of men, whose influence is well known in the Basque Provinces, and who had hitherto used it rather in favour of the queen than against her, from their desire of ease and the quiet possession of their livings, to take a decided part in favour of the revolt, and to use that powerful arm of a superstitious country, the chair of confession, to stir up the flame of discord, and to animate the whole people against the despoilers of their religion and privileges. So powerful was this engine, that, after the Easter confessions in 1814, two thousand vo-lunteers joined the faction—the greater part of whom were armed at the expense of the clergy, who had instigated them to act. At length the outcry against Butron became so great, that the queen removed him to Estramadura."

Mr. Honan proceeded to the head-quarters of

Mr. Honan proceeded to the head that the the Carlist army, and he says—
"Let it not be supposed that the battalions of Don Carlos are wild troops met together out of a spirit of independence, and unwilling to submit to discipline; as they are in reality per-fectly organised, with the full complement of officers, commissioned and non-commissioned. and they are regularly drilled and efficient in the simple manœuvres necessary for the service; and as to their submission to discipline, we had unhappily a specimen; for a man who had been tried by a court-martial, and convicted for disobedience of orders, was punished in the middle of the square before us. He was tied over a drum, and six men beat him for almost three minutes with canes as thick as the little finger—the sentence having been read before the battalion, and the drums sounding during its infliction. He was then admonished, if the offence was repeated he would be discharged the service, which is a disgrace most dreaded by a Navarese. Punishment, as I understood, seldom takes place; but a crime is never passed over, particularly that of robbery of a peasant, which is met with instant death. Indeed, the Spanish soldiers are the best conducted possible, and the crime of drunkenness, which leads our men into so many scrapes, is unknown to them, and it is with horror they speak of the cruel floggings which the soldados comprados are said to receive almost duly at Victoria. The lancers were a fine set of fellows, and the officer of our party, who had belonged to the Life-Guards, said he had seldom seen men of better form; and if Don Carlos could get together a couple of thousand equally as good, he would try his fortune in the plains. Our road led through two large villages, before we reached Mondra-Herald newspaper, and had, therefore, good gon, where we understood the commander-in-more courage.

gon, where we understood the commander-in-more courage.

We will not accompany our author into Castismission was to observe, and report the truth; battalion in marching order, with its ammuni-lialonia, where he represents the Carlist force

tion in the process of being taken out of the magazines, and loaded on mule-back. Those regiments were fully as efficient as the others I had seen, and the greater part were provided with their new clothing; but the muskets of all were in good order; and if some were but lightly clad, they seemed to regard it with indifference, as there was no want of rations or wine. The officers were gentlemanlike men, most of them of the Madrid Garde-de-Corps, or the Royal Guard, in Ferdinand's time; though there were some few mixed up with them, who were guerilla chiefs, and who had attained rank from having well deserved it, by keeping the country before Don Carlos came, and when their cause was almost hopeless. These battalions included, we had not seen, since the morning, less than from ten to twelve thousand men, nor, within three days, under fifteen thousand, all organised and fit for action; so that our doubts about the army were set at rest, as, allowing for the divi-sion under Sarasa, in Biscay, the whole number of eighteen thousand regular troops, independent of the voluntarios, for the internal service of the provinces, which had been given to me at head-quarters, was fully and substantially made out."

We wish we could say as much for the conduct and absence of punishments in our own legion; but the fact, we are assured, is, that much plundering is committed by the legion-aries; and the feelings of Spain are continually shocked by punishments of the most revolting kind. Mere schoolboys are seen ordering out men on the march to be flogged; and the pre-vosting is perpetually going on. We speak on the authority already referred to. Among the

Carlists were some deserters, and Mr. H. says : "I was surprised to see men of such good manners, and apparently of good conduct, deserters; but it was not safe, where we then were, to express our opinions of their unworthiness, as there can be no excuse for desertion, and they should, if dissatisfied, have found their way home to England, and not gone over to fight against their own countrymen, as it appeared these fellows had done at Hernani. They justified themselves after their own fashion; but we gave them no countenance, and said our only motive in seeing them was to ascertain how many Englishmen were in the service of Don Carlos. They replied, that there were more than thirty, and that eighteen more were daily expected, and that they had petitioned Don Carlos to embody them together, and give them an English officer to command them. They admitted they were well fed and well treated, and had no other complaint but the irregularity of their pay, which was then two months in arrear. They asserted that many of the auxiliaries wished to come over, particularly the Irishmen, as they were Roman Catholics, and were well received by the people; but that a strict watch was kept over them, and the shooting of two men who had strayed from Bilboa had frightened them very much, as it was supposed Don Carlos's order, to put them beyond the Eliot convention, would be acted on. From them I further learned that the band of one of the English battalions had been taken, and was now in attendance on General Sarasa at Biscay: and the English boy we saw at Onate, as servant to General Marotto, was the son of the first clarionet-player. They also confirmed the account given me by the French officers, of the conduct of the Carlists in action, and said it was impossible for men to fight with more courage."

to be increasing. He visited Figueras, Gerona, and Barcelona, just at the period of the horrid massacre of the prisoners; and was finally sent from Madrid by the gout. Of these matters we subjoin a few traits, and so conclude.

" As we advanced into the country, we found posts established, and had to give some pesetas to the begging Miqueletes. In one place the officer, because we spoke to him in French, had his suspicion excited; but when we said we were Englishmen, shrugged up his shoulders, as if to say, 'Pass on; you are welcome every-where.' We had not turned this last post when we met one of the Carlist spies, who had come down from the mountain to learn what force was on the road. He was attended by two dogs, who both were in advance, making alternate castings, and so admirably trained that the moment they scent or see the queen's troops, they give notice, and the man conceals himself, or retraces his steps. Our driver per-fectly understood the plan, and we watched for some time the dogs, quite assured of their sa-gacity, and astonished at their training, which is made on the same principle that the Belgian or German smuggler's dog is taught to know and avoid the French custom-house officer. *

"We found Barcelona still suffering under the effects of the horrible tragedy which had but two days before our arrival been enacted The blood was still undried on the pavement; the embers of the fire with which the body of O'Donnell was burned, were still unquenched. It was with loathing that we heard the details of the foul massacre of so many prisoners in cold blood, under the eye and with the permission of the governor; and, if not absolutely with the connivance of the government at Madrid, with that of the person to whom its authority was delegated. following account was given to me by eye-wit-nesses, on whose veracity dependence could be placed :- In consequence, as it was alleged, of some Urbanos having been murdered by the Carlist bands in one of the villages to which they entered, not a great distance from Bar-celona, the minds of the people there became agitated, and on Monday, about four o'clock, a parcel of youths ran along the principal streets, crying out, 'Death to the traitors!' and 'Revenge!' By degrees the crowd inand 'Revenge!' creased, without any effort on the part of the authorities to disperse it, until the alarm became general, and the citizens began to close their shops, the respectable people to barricade their doors, the church-bells to be rung, and several boys, who at that season of the year were in the habit of parading with lighted torches to celebrate the feast of Epiphany, led the way to the prisons in which the intended victims had been for some time confined. The leaders of the mob had, in the mean time, waited upon the lieutenant-governor-Mina, the captain-general, being absent—and de-manded that the prisoners should be given up to them: but this being refused, the cry of murder and death to the Carlists was spread by them on every side; and, in a short space, all the refuse of Barcelona, including a great number of the Urbanos, acting in the queen's name, wearing her livery, and with the English muskets, lately put into their hands out of the Rodney, by virtue of the Quadruple Treaty, rushed to the citadel in the town, not the fort on the hill, and there, as if by magic, ladders being found, the walls were scaled,-300 infantry, the only regular troops in Barce-lona, stationed in the citadel, not opposing any

this post furnished, at the desire of the leaders, a list of the names, not only of the prisoners under his care, but also of those in two other prisons; and then, with the most diabolical regularity, each of those persons was successively brought forth and launched into eternity. The senior captain of the English squadron hearing, at the commencement of the alarm, that a desperate attempt against public order was in contemplation, waited on the deputy-governor, offering the aid of the marines as a demonstration; but he, evidently more alarmed lest he should be compromised by opposing the fury of the mob than by effectually resisting it, declined the assistance, alleging that there was no mischief intended by the people, and that he expected they would disperse after indulging in their usual cries. The town was illuminated according to the practice here, that when the alarm-bells are rung, and the drums beaten to arms, every house shall place torches at the windows for the guidance of the troops; and the number of boys, then collected, with their flambeaux made fearfully visible all the horrors that were going on. The terror of the ladies and children in the respectable families was as appalling as the scene passing out of doors was tragical; they every moment expecting that the furious mob would break into their houses, and sacrifice their fathers and brothers, under the pretence of their being The walls of the citadel (a regular fortress) being scaled, and the prison - door opened, the first victim was called out, namely, Colonel Joseph O'Donnell. This brave and unfortunate man had a presentiment of his fate: for when he was taken prisoner near Figueras, he requested to be sent into Navarre and not conducted to Barcelona, in order that he might have the benefit of the Eliot convention. That favour was refused; and he was so fully convinced of the lot which awaited him at Barcelona, that he wrote to his wife to make up her mind never to see him again. It is a painful circumstance to add, that Ma-dame O'Donnell had succeeded in inducing Cordova to exchange her husband for three of the queen's officers, whom Don Carlos willing-ly gave up to save him, and was at Bayonne, about proceeding to carry the glad intelligence to him, when she was struck to the ground with the fatal news of his inhuman massacre. O'Donnell demanded that a clergyman should be sent for; but his murderers refused that last request. He then required that they should cover his eyes with a handkerchief, which one, less cruel than the rest, consented to: on which he crossed his arms on his chest. and received his death-blow; the mob shouting in infernal triumph at his fall. The other prisoners were called out by name, according to their rank; and muskets being placed at their heads, sixty-seven unfortunate men, among whom were ten officers, perished under the fire of these assassins. The bod O'Donnell was then tied with cords, The body of thrown over the wall, and dragged in hellish triumph through every part of the city, the mob following in thousands, and venting execrations against him and all other Carlists, until they stopped in the principal street, opposite the theatre; and there, lighting a great fire, and separating the head, burned the body, and celebrated infernal orgies over it. head was then kicked about as if a foot-ball; and at eight o'clock the following morning, such of the respectable inhabitants as ventured to their windows saw the head of O'Donneli resistance, but lending their hands to the as-and of some other person, equally brutally sallants to mount. The officer commanding treated, kicked up and down the long and

beautiful street by some of those demons who seemed still unsated with blood. After the massacre had been completed in the citadel. the crowd rushed to the two other prisons, and finding in one twenty, and in the other the same number of unfortunate Carlists, they led them out and shot them one by one, every death being the signal for cheers and vivas. An officer contrived to escape, but he was followed by a dragoon, and cut down in the open street; and, to shew how systematically the murder was carried on, another, who, by the connivance of a friend among the rioters, had escaped, was found wanting as the list was called for; and it was with difficulty that the leaders could be appeased, as they declared that nothing short of the full number would satisfy them. The whole of the next day Barcelona was in a state of confusion that cannot be described; the respectable houses were closed, the authorities did not dare to shew themselves, while the Urbanos and the mob rushed shouting through the streets, kicking the heads of O'Donnell and the others before them, until the more violent part of them, proceeding from one excess to another, and in want of a further stimulus, agreed to proclaim the Constitution; and in a short time the city was exposed to a fresh peril, and to a general up-rising and pillage, as the leaders of the riot ran along crying out, 'Viva for the Constitution!' Death to the tyrants!' and then the finish was given to the project, by the stone being laid, and the Constitution proclaimed by acclamation."

When ordered from Madrid, the officer who had the charge of his being conducted to Por-tugal, "began to talk of himself and of his occupation, of the government, of the police, of the Christinos, and Carlists; and if half what he said be true, scenes of iniquity have gone on for the last two years in the name of Liberty, at Madrid, which exceed those of the worst days of the Inquisition. He told me, that he and his companions were employed almost every week in domiciliary visits, and carrying suspected persons, in the dead of the night, from their families, and passing them to the frontier: and he assured me that he had but just returned from performing the following piece of duty: The government had information that a Carlist colonel was in Madrid, and they ordered my friend to go to his house, take him from bed at break of day, put him into a comfortable carriage, shew him a passport, treat him with respect,-in short, act towards him as he was doing by me, in order that he should have no suspicion of the private instructions which the officer had received. These orders were, that as soon as the colonel had passed twenty leagues from Madrid, he was to be taken to a spot previously fixed upon, where the alcalde of the next town, with a party of fifteen soldiers, were to meet him: and there he was to be shot, and a receipt from the alcalde taken for his body, The colonel parted from his wife and children with calmness, as he was assured that no violence was intended towards him, and the officer chatted and smoked with him, as he was doing with me, until he arrived at the prescribed distance, when he was informed, for the first time, of the fate which was prepared. The unfortunate gentleman fancied, at first, that the officer was joking, and affected to treat the matter in that style; but the moment he was undeceived and found that his death was at hand, he asked but five minutes for prayer, and then, stepping into the field, crossed his arms on his breast, and received, like a hero, the fire of the whole platoon! A receipt was

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taken for the body; a hole was dug in the ground; it was thrown into it; the alcalde returned to his village; the officer to Madrid; and, perhaps, up to this hour, the fate of this murdered man is not known to his family; nor will the government ever be brought to an account for it. I looked at my friend while he told me this cold-blooded piece of villany, and imagined that he had orders to treat me in the same manner; and certainly, if I was in the least compromised, or had the slightest soil upon my conscience of being a Carlist agent, I should have made a struggle for his pistols, and saved him the compliment that was meant for me; but a little reflection, and the confidence of my own innocence, served to reassure me, and I continued the journey without any approhension of worse consequences.'

Even in Estremadura, Mr. H. found the Carlists very numerous; and he thus finishes his tonr :_

"I have avoided giving any opinion as to the ultimate result of the contest for the crown of Spain; for we have found that, while the queen has been unable to put down Don Carlos, the infante has not been strong enough to leave the Basque country; and the presence of twenty thousand foreign bayonets renders it still doubtful when he may have the power to do so. His cause is, however, progressing be-yond the reach of the stranger's aid; and it is, at this hour, more widely spread in Catalonia and Aragon, than on the day when I com-menced my narrative."

> Strang's Germany in 1831. [Second Vol.: Second notice.]

WE find in this volume a continuation of materials similar to the first; and, therefore, requiring little further critical remark. author visited Potsdam, and then left Berlin for Leipsic and Dresden; giving us good ac-counts of these places. At Potsdam he relates an anecdote, which we think we have heard before; but still it is interesting enough for repetition.

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"There is something here, however, in-finitely more interesting than what the painter and the upholsterer can produce, seeing that it was within the walls of this palace that Frederick spent the greater part of his life, and at last gave up the ghost. In the small library, consisting solely of French books, we still see the ink-stand and the table at which he was accustomed to sit; and they are just as the monarch left them. In the adjoining apartment, strangers are shewn the spot where the elbow-chair stood in which he breathed his last. Upon the table of this chamber, our observation was drawn to a small French pendule; it was a favourite of Frederick's, and he per-mitted no one to touch it but himself; every day he wound it up with his own hand. On the last day of his life, amid his many troubles, it was forgotten; and, as the story goes, the hands, pointing, as they do at present, twenty minutes past two o'clock, mark the precise moment when Frederick ceased to exist: the pendule, as if by magic, stopped at the very moment of the king's death, and it has never since been put in motion."

At Leipsic, we have a curious picture of the German university system; and Mr. Strang stands forward as the apologist for the absurdities in which many of the students are so prone to indulge. He attributes the continuance of these " relics of barbarous chivalry," inter alia,-

verted, in some of the universities, into called; while the champions, having stripped Burschenschaften (of which last, Sand, the as- off their usual dress in an adjoining room, don Burschenschaften (of which last, Sand, the assassin, was a crazy member), a species of masonic associations, consisting of from twelve to thirty brethren in each club. Originally the members of these societies were limited, as the name indicates, to parties belonging to the same part of the country, who were connected by the same home sympathies, the subjects of the same sovereign, and united by the same laws and customs, or enjoying the same bur-saries or free tables. They, in some degree, resembled the societies we yet find existing in this city, where the students are still known by such designations as the Nationes Lusati, Thuringii, &c. Bound together, as the members were, by the ties of friendship, so naturally created in the hearts of those who are daily brought in contact with one another in early life, the individuals belonging to one association became, by degrees, ready to espouse the quarrels which one or other might have had with an individual belonging to another association; and being permitted to use arms, they adopted rules, badges, and cant terms, after the fashion of feudal chivalry, for the purpose of assisting each other in private disputes. An appeal to the broad-sword became the necessary consequence of every insult offered by one Bursch to another, whether that insult was offered to himself, to the country of which he was a subject, or to the Landsmannschaften to which he belonged. But the conflicts arising out of a slur cast upon the Landsmannschaft, are occasionally not limited to single combats; sometimes the whole members of one fraternity turn out against those of another, each making choice of his opponent; and thus in a mass they try this question of honour. Each member of the several societies (of which there are generally half-a-dozen belonging to each university) is characterised by the peculiar hue of his cap and his pipe-tassels, by the colour of the stripe running down the sides of his trousers, and the tint of the scarf which he invariably wears when engaged in the duello. Each Bursch has signs and a shibboleth only known to the brothers of the fraternity to which he belongs, while he always appends a peculiar mark or cipher to his signature, in-dicative of the brotherhood. The members generally congregate in one particular garden or smoking-shop. The Burschen duel, though thus pompously practised, is an affair that must appear absurd enough in the eyes of an Englishman. A slight sketch of the ceremonial observed on such occasions may amuse you. The Bursch, you must know, being the most sensitive of mortals, never permits the smallest insult or insinuation to pass unpunished; and, on feeling himself or his fraternity in the least degree aggrieved, he instantly despatches a coramizen, or message, to claim either an apology or a meeting; and I need scarcely add, that the latter is the general result. The meeting being fixed, the two who are bent on murderous strife, each attended by a second or witness of their own, an impartial witness belonging to some other Landsmannschaft, and a medical student, proceed in a hackney-coach to one of the small village inns, whose chief profit arises from the potations and revels of the students. At Leipsic, the common rendezvous is either at Ranstadt or Galitz; at Göttingen, the principal scenes of their chivalrous conflicts are Wehnd, the Papiermühle, or the Rasinmühle. On reaching the inn appointed for the

themselves in the peculiar trousers, scarfs, and badges of the Burschenschaft to which each belongs. Arrayed in this mountebank costume, which is most carefully padded to guard against wounds in any vital part of the body, the combatants enter the apartment; and the comparants enter the apartment; and having, with extravagant disdain, eyed each other from head to foot, they obey the summons of their seconds, by placing their left foot on the chalked line, and then, grasping the basket-hilted schlager, or straight broad-sword, which have the second which have which is presented to them, and which has been previously sharpened for the occasion, The second of stand ready for the onslaught. stand ready for the onstaught.

the injured party then proceeds, in a portentious voice, to say, hindet die klingen, or 'join blades;' while the second of the other party cries out, gebunden ist, or 'agreed.' former next exclaims, haut aus, 'strike the first blow,' and immediately the first gang, or onset, commences, and the others proceed in a spirit commensurate with the exasperation of the combatants. The conflict is generally limited to twelve, and, at most, to twenty-four rounds. In fact, after the last - mentioned number of onsets, the duel must terminate, whether blood has been drawn or not. If the offended party declares himself satisfied, after the first wound, which is never very deep, the fight ceases immediately, provided the wound is declared by his second to be an anschiss, or fairly dealt blow. The unfortunate bleeder confides himself to the care of the surgeonstudent, who is in attendance; and retires, joking or grumbling, according to the leniency or severity of the wound, or the temper he may be in at the moment. The other individuals interested in this affair of honour, which you will naturally enough pronounce to be nothing but pure humbug, then assemble together, and, with the spectators who are present, sit down to a drinking bout. This, very probably, was one of the chief purposes of the duel; and, accordingly, all parties join it in the best possible humour; and, having carolled and sung to their hearts' content, they return to the city to relieve their comrades in the university from all their anxieties. With respect to the affrays which so frequently take place between the students and the Knoten, or tradesmen, I may state, that very many of these arise out of the unfair liberties which foreigners take with those for whom they can feel no sympathy. For instance, in Göttingen and Heidelberg, more than one half of the whole students who attend the university, are foreigners, individuals from Switzerland, Russia, Denmark, Sweden, Britain, and America. The subjects of these countries, I am told, are generally the ringleaders in every university disturbance. Aware that their uproarious conduct during a college life can have but little influence on their future prospects at home, they are much more reckless of consequences than the native collegians; while their better filled purses enable them not only to go greater lengths in every prank, but also to afford compensation for the mischief which they too often voluntarily occasion. While I thus frankly admit that these and other disagreeables in the eyes of every quiet youth are still existing in the universities of Germany, it must never he forgotten that the follies of the Burschen life have been greatly exaggerated by travellers; and, what is more important to know, that this life is not folrairy," inter alia,—

To the existence of such societies as the largest apartment in the house, proceed to dents. From a particular friend, who studied are called Landsmannschaften, lately con-chalk out the mensur, or measure, as it is at Göttingen, I have learned, that out of fourteen hundred students, not more than one to about sixpence a-day. There were upwards half so happy. They feel miserable when out hundred were members of any Burschenschaft; of two thousand regularly engaged as labourers of Vienna; and I believe there is no man so affected with home-sickness, when in a foreign students."

In a note, the following characteristic sketch of a large sect of German philosophers, and

their creed, is worthy of notice :

"The fundamental doctrines of Schelling's philosophy are : - ' The absolute God is, being and knowledge in one without division, from whom all creation is produced by means of division, and into whom all returns by means of reunion (dissolution). All real being is of divine, spiritual nature, and cannot be anni-hilated, only dissolved. All things participate in the Divine Being; they are separated from it, and from each other in the real—only quantitively. The absolute has revealed itself in time and space, by self-division. Only by the way of limitation, is a creation of the Infinite attainable. The Infinite, in its existence and appearance, is limited, circumscribed, i. e. the Real. The universe is a perfect organism in The universe is a perfect organism, in which all things that seem opposed, are reunited without destruction to either. highest reunion is the self-revelation of God. Man is the most perfect copy of this universe a world in himself-Microcosm.' These were Göethe's doctrines also, and illustrations of them generally pervade his writings."

In Dresden, we learn, there are five literary and advertising journals, but not one political newspaper published. We should have been as well pleased if Mr. Strang had taken this as a model, and not foisted his politics against nobility, aristocrats, oligarchies, &c. &c., so much, the midst of his literary and travelling intelligence. These volumes would have been all the better for it. From Dresden he went to Toplitz and Prague; from Prague to Vienna; from Vienna to Munich; and thence hastily finished his tour, from which we have yet a few selections to make. Near Toplitz, he

informs us __

"Nowhere in Germany are so good hops raised as in the valleys of this country. Bavaria-the land most celebrated in Germany for malt liquor-draws its chief supply of hops from Bohemia. Nearly 12,000 centzners, as I have been told, have, in one year, been exported to

the author says :-

"This important undertaking, when com-pleted, will extend about eighty English miles. It was begun, in 1825, under the auspices of the Austrian Government. Its formation and management were committed to the Chevalier Von Gerstner, who, I understand, spent some weeks at Darlington a few years ago, to make himself master of our English system of roadmaking. You may judge of its importance when I inform you, that it connects the Moldau with the Danube, and may be justly said to unite the trade of the north with the south of Germany. Originally, the principal object of the railroad was the transport of salt, of which article no less than 4,773,400 centzners have, during six years, been carried in wagons, or about 800,000 per annum. The charge for carrying the salt along the whole line, is only about fourteen pence the centzner. At present, however, the trade in other articles has far outstripped that of salt. The transport of wood alone along the road, has been prodigious. It is a remarkable fact, that, in the formation of this railway, the individuals employed were chiefly females, each of whose wages amounted

while in this city and in Berlin, the amount is in forming the embankments, excavating the even less in proportion to the whole number of soil, &c. During the first two years, namely from August 1825 to December 1827, the chevalier was enabled, in the course of forty and a half English miles, to cut no less than 696,464 cubic yards, and to construct 807,844 cubic yards of embankments, besides laying the way with malleable rails. He erected, also, during those two years, 73 bridges, from three to 18 yards each, with 133 culverts; and he also made 236 wagons. The whole cost of the railway during that period, amounted only to about 75,2001. sterling."

What a contrast to the way in which these things are done in England, where it would cost the whole amount on engineers, lawyers, and M.P.'s before an undertaking of half the

importance could be begun!*

But to leave these matters: the morals of Vienna seem to be much on a par with those of Prague. "The population of Vienna in 1830, amounted to nearly 306,000 souls; about 54,000 live in the Stadt, and the rest in the suburbs. The annual births amount to about 10,000 or 12,000; the marriages to 3,000; and the deaths to about 4 per cent of the population, or about 12,300. Nicolai has given the deaths in Vienna at 1 in 19 or 20, but this must be over-

And "You have there the best frequented and most splendid coffee-houses of a city, where the first coffee-house in Europe was established, and in front of which the Turk, the Greek, the Armenian, the Jew, and the Gentile, are constantly to be seen amusing themselves, and realising, in respect to the variety of tongues spoken, no imperfect idea of Babel. You have there, also, some of the largest and loftiest of those mansions, with their green jalousies and their flower-filled balconies for which Vienna is so celebrated - houses containing, as one of them is known actually to do, upwards of two thousand inhabitants, and affording a yearly rent to its proprietors of not less than 170,000 florins ! If the business of the cook be their daily thought, the power of beauty is their nightly dream. But eating everlasting eating-forms with them the chief charm of existence. It is here pursued in a that country."

most determined manner. I was not a little
The importance of rail-roads is shewn by the
effects of that from Prague to Pilsen, of which in the dining-room of our hotel, that the whole group of gourmands, previous to taking their places at the table, cast off their coats as if they were going to have a regular set-to in the Fives Court! On inquiry, I learned that this cool, systematic mode of stuffing, is very generally practised throughout the city at this hot season of the year; and, what is worse, that so un-English a habit is not confined to the dining-rooms of hotels and restaurateurs, but is even practised in the houses of some of the nobility. Viennese, I should also say, is as changeful in his passions as he is in his pleasures. He hates and he loves a dozen times a-day, but he rarely allows the sun to go down upon his wrath. He is too volatile to indulge in revenge. From all that I have heard, I am led to believe, that for kindness of disposition, the people of this city have scarcely any equals. Their charity, too, is as boundless as their patriotism, which is not to be excelled. They love no country half so well as their own, and consider none

See the debates on the Brighton railroad on Tuesday week in the House of Commons: when public utility, fair competition, and even time for an honest investigation, were shut out by a majority of 101 votes to 61.

land, as one who has been born within the sound of St. Stephen's bell. I understand that there are nearly as many real Cockneys in Vienna, in comparison to its population, as in London; and I have also been told, that there are hundreds now living within the walls who have never been beyond the barriers, and what is still more surprising, who have no desire whatever to go beyond them! What does a Vienna Cockney care for a country which to him is as much a terra incognita, as Scotland is to a London cit?

" England affords the Vienna joker endless materials for his wit, which, to my cost, I have frequently experienced since I came here. For instance, the burning of stacks of grain to better the conditions of the people-the impressment of seamen to defend liberty - our religious enthusiasm, and our devotion to the spirit-bottle - our vaunted morals, and our thousands of criminals-and a hundred other things were ready to be thrown in my teeth. whenever I began to hint about the Austrian censorship of the press, the severity and prying secrecy of the police, or the insecurity of the post-office. So you see, our glorious constitution in church and state, is not as yet altogether the envy of the world and the admiration of surrounding nations!"

The description of Prague possesses some novelty and information, to which we shall devote brief space in another Number.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Numbers of The Pickuick Club continue to display the humour and talent of the clever writer. The last Number, for instance, gives us the following droll description of Boots, at an ancient inn in the borough:—

"A loud ringing of one of the bells was followed by the appearance of a smart chambermaid in the upper sleeping gallery, who, after tapping at one of the bells was followed by the appearance of a smart chambermaid in the upper sleeping gallery, who, after tapping at one of the doors, and receiving a request from within, called over the balustrades, 'Sam!' 'Hallo,' replied the man with the white hat. 'Number twenty-two wants his boots.' 'Ask number twenty-two, wether he'll have 'em now, or vait till he gets 'em', was the reply. 'Come, don't be a fool, Sam,' said the girl, coaxingly, 'the gentleman wants his boots directly,' 'Well, you are a nice young 'coman for a musical party, you are,' said the boot-cleaner. 'Look at these here boots—eleven pair o' boots; and one shoe as b'longs to number six, with the wooden leg. The eleven boots to be called at half-past eight, and the shoe at nine. Who's number twenty-two, that's to put all the others out? No, no; reg'lar rotation, as Jack Ketch said, ven te tied the men up. Sorry to keep you a watin', Sir, but I'll attend to you directly.' Saying which, the man in the white hat set to work upon a top-boot with increased assiduity. There was another loud ring; and the bustling old landady of the White Hart made her appearance in the opposite gallery. 'Sam,' cried the landlady, 'where's that laxy, idle—why, Sam—oh, there you are; why don't you answer?' 'Youldn't be gen-teel to answer 'till you'd done talking,' repied Sam, gruffly. 'Here, clean them shoes for number seventeen directly, and take 'em to private sitting-room, number five, first foor.' The landlady flung a pair of lady's shoes into the yard, and bustled away. 'Number five,' said Sam, as he picked up the shoes, and taking a picce of chalk from his po ket, made a memorandum of their dest ihe heap before him. 'For all I knowd, he vas one o' he regulat three-pennies. Private room: and a lady too' If he's anything of a gen'lm'n, he's vurth a shillin' a day, let alone the arrands.' Stimulated by this inspiring refection, Mr. Samuel brushed away with such hearty good will, that in a few minutes the boots and shoes, with a polish which would have struck envy to the soul of the amiable Mr. Warren (for they used Day and Martin at the White Hart), had arrived at the door of number five." The Tales of Fiction, issued at the same time, also

The Tales of Fiction, issued at the same tand maintain their popular character.

A Brief Compendium of Mythology, by a Lady. (Reading, Ingali; London, Hamilton, Adams, and Co.)—A very small, but nice little book, to initiate children into some of the leading mysteries of heathen mythology.

Slavery, by W. E. Channing. (Glasgow, Hedderick and

powerfully written tract. Dr. Channing's name is enough; it requires no passport from us.

The Naturalise's Library. Mammalia: Vol. V. Puchyetermes, by Sit W. Jardine, Bart. (Edinburgh, Lizars; London, Highley; Dublin, Curry.)—A very beautiful and interesting volume, to which are prefixed a portrain and memoir of Sir Hans Sloane. It treats chiefly of Cuvier's seventh order, &c., and furnishes matter, both scientific and curious, respecting the "thick-skinned" animals which compose it,—the elephant, rhinoceros, hyrax, swine, peccary, tapit, &c. Information and entertainment are equally blended in the portion devoted to natural history.

tainment are equally blended in the portion devoted to natural history.

Note of a Ramble through France, Switzerland, Germany, Holland, and Belgitum; and a Visit to the Scenes of the Ladw of the Lake, by a Lover of the Picturesque. 8vo. pp. 464. (London, Hamilton, Adams, and Co.)—Our author is, we dare say, an excellent traveller; but there is not much in him as a writer. His volume is exceedingly various, and not unentertaining; but still, it was hardly worth mublishine.

and not unentertaining; out only two many publishing.

Fibra Hibernica, &c., by J. T. Mackay, M.R.I.A. 8vo pp. 379. (Dublin, Curry and Co.; London, Simpkin and Co.; Edinburgh, Fraser and Co.)—A very elaborate, copious, and much-wanted Flora of Ireland, which gives a good account of the flowers, muscl, hepaticæ, lichens, aige, &c. of that country, arranged according to the natural order, with a synopsis on the Linnæan system. We most cordially recommend it to the notice of the public.

Thoughte and Reminiscences, being a Series of Reflections on Sucred Subjects, in proceed and were, by E. F. Pp. 120.—A pious, well-meant, and pleasing little work, which treats of many religious subjects of infinite interest and importance, in a manner likely to make good impression on the mind of the reader.

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graphy," from the same quarter, is equally worthy of commendation. Tales of a Grandjather, by Sir W. Scott; Vol. VI. France. Vol. I. (Edin. Cadell; Lond. Whittaker.)—With characteristic embellishments after Turner, the vignette, Calais, being particularly picturesque, this volume com-mences the well-known French history by Sir W. Scott, and continues the edition of his prose works, of which it is the 27th.

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The Young Cook's Guide, &c., by J. Roberts. 8vo. Pp. 307. (London, Laking.)—Mr. Roberts, having occupied the important station of cook to the Duke of Gioucester, Lord Dynevor, and the late and present Earls of Clarendon, may be presumed to be a competent teacher of the culinary art; and we can assure our housewife readers, that, for English and French cookery, for pastry, confectionary, the preservation of fruits, and all the etceteras which the palate loves and the stomach covets,—combining, at the same time, refinement with moderate cost,—this is a very useful and excellent work. Guide to the Pronunciation of the Italian Language, &c., by M. de la Claverie. Pp. 173. (London, Smith, Elder, and Co.; Liverpool, Grapel.)—We were much pleased with Mr. Claverie's 'French Reader's Guide;" nor have we reason to be less so with his present publication. The correct pronunciation of Italian is the grand object of

we reason to be less so with his present publication. The correct pronunciation of Italian is the grand object of every lover of that musical tongue; and the rules and examples here set out are well calculated to promote and ensure that accomplishment.

The Naval History of Great Britain, from the Years 1783 to 1835, by E. P. Brenton, Captain R.N. Parts I. and II. (London, Colburn.) — Embellished with portraits of distinguished naval officers, this republication in monthly parts of a work deservedly held in high esteem, is a service not only to the naval profession and literature, but to English history. Ten Parts are to include the whole.

whole.

Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopedia; Vol. LXXX. Greece, by
Rev. C. Thirlwall. Vol. III. (London, Longman and
Co.)—The continuation of this well-executed work.
Treating of Cimon, Pericles, Cleon, and their time,
when arts and literature flourished in Greece, such a volume must be one of great interest.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

EUPHRATIC EXPEDITION.

[We have the pleasure to lay the following late and particular accounts of the Expedition before the readers of the Literary Gazette.—Ed.]

River Euphrates, March 21, 1836.

MY DEAR -- You will wonder at never having heard from your friend since the left the shores of Great Britain. The fact is,

to avoid contradictions, and, on the other, not to anticipate the interest the public might be expected to feel in the results of our journeyings and explorations. But the delays have so accumulated, that the general character of the expedition has changed from that of a hurso accumulated, that the general character of the expedition has changed from that of a hur-ried and bold push across an almost hostile

The loss experienced by breakage and otherwise during the transport by sea and by land, and so much prolonged on the latter, was so small as scarcely to deserve notice.

Son.)—A reprint of the Boston (U.S.) edition of this country, and down an almost unknown river, powerfully written tract. Dr. Channing's name is enough; to a slow but stoody labour both as a recorded to a slow but steady labour, both as regarded the transport of the materials and the navigation of the Euphrates. You are aware that the difficulties which occurred to our getting the materials of the boats carried across the country, originated in the indirect, but not secret, opposition of the Syrian ruler, Ibrahim Pacha; but the resources of the country were also extremely slender. The roads had to be made, and even the bullocks taught to draw; but the resolute perseverance of our commander, and the never-failing exertions of the officers and men, triumphed over all obstacles. August, was sheeted with snow in December; yet, on the third of March, 1836, the last wagon, drawn by a hundred oxen, entered the gates of the diminutive but busy enclosure of Port William.* From Amelia depôt, at the across a hilly country to Ghuzel Bourge (the pretty tower), a village on the banks of the same river, three miles beyond Antioch. At this station boilers and sections, with all the other various items, were successively put into boats and carried up the river, and across the lake of Antioch; then, again, by the Karason (black water), to the bridge of Mourad Pasha. Here the land transport commenced again, and there were two stations, Ghindanes (Gindarus) and Azass, between the bridge and Port William, on the Euphrates. The hilly country does not cease till Azass; for, although the Turcoman plains of Alamk occupy the neigh-bourhood of the lake, hills, peopled by agricultural and sedentary Koords, extend from El Haman (the baths), by Ghindanes, to Azass; and behind all is nearly level territory, including the valleys of the Kowick (Chalus) and the Sedgour, with cultivated ground and numerous villages as far as to the Euphrates. The station of Mourad Pasha, where the detention was chiefly attributable to a young chieftain of the Turcomans, influenced by higher authority, was among the most unhealthy; and no one of the officers or men remained there for a few days without suffering from malaria of a severe type. Happily, the number of lives lost was very few; one at the station, and one subsequently, from illness that originated Indeed, it can now be safely affirmed that the ague, so common to most parts of Syria, is very far from being a dangerous disease; and it is only when complicated with old standing diseases, and broken constitutions, that it may become no longer amenable to the curative art. With proper care and caution on the part a new comer, Syria is as healthy a climate as it is decidedly a fine one. some points of view, the scenery and vegetation can have few parallels. The malaria of Scanderoon is the most feared by Europeans; but three of our officers, among whom was your correspondent, suffered from that malady, and also got rid of it. Many English, travelling and localised, have died since we have been in the country; none without reasons satisfactory to a medical man, that there were circumstances in their deaths more than climacteric. expedition of which he is an humble member Our whole loss - among men of various habits and constitutions, toiling at a most laborious enterprise, exposed to a mid-day sun and night chills, the extremes of summer and winter, with change of diet, and reckless energies-has been eight men.

Whatever might have been, or still may be the fate of the expedition, the results already attained to science, more especially to geo-graphy, are of the most important description. The journeys made into the interior have been numerous; and the new facts collected, most interesting. At an early period of our arrival, three parties were at work. Lieut. Lynch, I. N., with his brother, of the Indian army, on the road ; Captain Estcourt, with Dr. Staunton, on a mission, partly diplomatic, to Damascus; Lieut. Murphy, Mr. Thomson, and Mr. Ainsworth, were on the coast between the Orontes and Lattakia (Laodicea), subsequently making The same road that was scorched by the sun in an ascent of mount Casius, and then proceeding on the survey of the Gulf of Scanderoon. surveying party afterwards broke up, Lieut. Murphy being required at the observatory at Port William, Mr. Thomson remaining to continue the levelling begun by our astronomer mouth of the Orontes, the road was carried from the sea to the Euphrates,-a magnificent work when accomplished. Previously to taking medical charge of the station at Mourad Pasha, Mr. Ainsworth obtained sanction for an exploratory journey to the south; when he examined the country between Antioch and the Anounan mountains, reaching Kalaat el Medak, and returned by the borders of the great desert south of Aleppo. At the same time, Lieut. Lynch, accompanied by Mr. Staunton and his brother, left Port William on a friendly mission to the Arabs; and, although the objects of the journey were accomplished in a satisfactory manner, it was only with great danger to the travellers, who had one of their servants shot, but not mortally wounded. The most southerly point reached was Deir, on the Euphrates.

The sickness at Port William was, towards the latter part of the year, severe; a few fell victims, and our indefatigable commander twice left his medical attendants without a hope. The winter was remarkably cold; the thermometer fell at Ninte to 8°, or 24° below freezing point. The snow was not off the ground when Colonel Chesney quitted his bed on a scientific excursion to the Taurus and part of Asia Minor. He was accompanied by Mr. Murphy, Mr. Staunton, and Mr. Ainsworth. This party proceeded by Bylan, through Issus and Adana, to Janus, where the French consul, M. Gilet, is carrying on excavations of an interesting nature. From thence they proceeded to the pass of Kule Broghaz and neighbouring mines, and thence to Sis by two different routes; the colonel and Mr. Ainsworth having for three days lost the baggage horses. From Sis they proceeded to ancient Anazarba and to Kars, crossing the mountains amidst many difficulties to Marash. From Marash the colonel left for Port William, while the remainder of the party crossed the country to Romkala, on the Euphrates, surveying the river from thence to Port William. The day after their return to their station, Mr. Ainsworth was appointed to join Lieut. Lynch and Mr. Eden on another excursion to survey up from Bunkala to Samosat, penetrating into Mesopotamia to Orfala, and the most ancient sites of Harran (Charras) and Seneg on the plain.

The 16th of March, the Euphrates steamer roceeded up the river against a current of five knots, from Port William to Bir, and saluted the sultan and his governor at the fine old Crusadic Castle. The river is here a noble expanse of waters, which flow past its rock-cradled walls. The bazaars were untenanted; and even the white-veiled daughters of the soil abandoned Baquis and Djanice, to mingle with the gaily dressed moslem crowd that lined the banks on the occasion. The same evening

the Mesopotamia party arrived, and joined at the anchorage a mile below the port. You will thus perceive that from a delay, which must have proved very annoying to those anxious persons at home who would have things accomplished as by enchantment, -as successfully as rapidly, -in reality, much has been gained; a greater portion of terri-tory has been examined; explorations have been carried on with more detail; natural history and meteorology more closely investigated; and the ultimate objects of the expedition ensured in a greater degree. The number of places that have been astronomically fixed is very great, and the materials for a map of districts that have been hitherto without almost a reconnoissance, have been collected with care and assiduity. The country comprised in these researches also contains many points of much interest in historical geography; and much that has been dubious, and matters of frequently repeated discussion, will be cleared up. I hope, then, you will say with me, now we are embarked upon the river, and have entrusted ourselves to its shoals and rapids, proceeding at a regulated pace, and carrying on, before all things, the survey as we proceed, that the commander of the expedition and the officers under him have, at least, deserved, by their labours, that patience which has been shewn, with a few exceptions, in awarding a verdict upon their success, or in putting a faithful trust in that indomitable perseverance which I hope is not uncharacteristic of Britons when fighting against difficulties .- Yours, &c.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

AT the monthly meeting, held on Thursday afternoon, Viscount Gage in the chair, the usual reports were read. The balance in usual reports were read. favour of the Society to the first day of June was about 60001.; during that month 64,747 persons visited the gardens; and the money received was 2414!. Upwards of forty new members were elected. The giraffes are in good health, and continue to attract to the gardens a very considerable number of visitors; and have, doubtless, contributed materially to the large increase which has taken place in the receipts, as compared with those of former The council reported that the museum, in Leicester Square, was so far com-pleted as to allow of its being opened to members and the public on Monday next. The following notes of a paper, lately read, on the economy of an insect destructive to turnips, by Mr. Yarrell, are applicable at the present season. This time last year the yellow fly was seen upon the young turnips. It was remembered by some farmers that this was the fly which prevailed in 1818, and which was followed by the caterpillars known by the name of the blacks. The eggs being deposited by the per-fect insect in the leaf of the plant, the black caterpillar, or turnip-pest, speedily makes its appearance, feeding on the soft portions of the leaves of the turnips, and leaving the fibres untouched; and finally, casting its black skin, and assuming one of a more slaty or gray colour, it buries itself in the earth. Lodged there, it forms for itself, from the soil, a strong oval cocoon; from which some of the earlier broods pass almost immediately into the perfect state, filled with ova, and ready quickly to supply another generation of destroyers. So complete and so rapid was the destruction in similar properties, is alone wanting to enable some instances last July, that a whole field the wild Highlands of Scotland, and the vast

only an assemblage of skeletonised leaves; and ductiveness, and wealth, and comfort. Hitherto this, too, when the turnips had attained a conthe trials have failed; but, at last, Lord Wilsiderable size. The insect, whose proceedings have been thus briefly noticed, belongs to the Hymenopterous family Tenthredinida; it is the Athalia centifolia, a species first noticed by Panzer. By their repeated broods the devastation was continued for so long a time, that even the third sowing did not, in all cases, escape destruction: the turnip became pithy and of little value, and it was necessary to import the root largely from the Continent to supply the deficiency of the home crop. The remedial measures adopted on a former vi-sitation were, the turning into the infested fields of a large number of ducks, who greedily devoured the caterpillars as they were brushed from the leaves by a boy with a long pole; the passing of a heavy roller over the ground at night, when the caterpillars were at their feed, and the strewing of quick lime by broad cast over the fields, renewing it as often as it was dispersed by the wind. The latter mode was generally considered as the most effectual preservative.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

JULY 4. The Rev. F. W. S. Hope, president, in the chair. - Numerous donations of entomological works were announced from Dr. Burmeister of Berlin, Sig. Passerini of Florence, and other foreign and British authors. Various interesting species of insects were exhibited, including a fine specimen of the very rare Goliath beetle, from the coast of Guinea, by the president; and an extensive series of the insects which are represented by anglers as their artificial flies, collected by Mr. Ronalds, whilst preparing his work, now in the press, entitled, "The Fly-fisher's Entomology." The president, also, made some observations upon the mode adopted by the silk-growers in the United States, whereby they are enabled to procure two crops of silk in the season, by means of a system termed the American system, described by Mr. Kenrick in his work upon that subject recently published at New York. A memoir was read upon a new genus of bees, from tropical Africa, by the secretary. Count Gotthelf Fischerde Walldheim was elected a foreign ordinary member of the Society; and certificates in favour of four resident members were also read.

PEAT-PRESSING MACHINE.

Among the recent improvements in useful inventions, models of which are to be seen in the Adelaide Gallery, we have been struck with none more important to the country, than a machine for compressing peat into a consistency which renders the masses equal to all the pur-poses of coal, for which the public are indebted to the persevering and ingenious experiments of Lord Willoughby de Eresby. Those who have the happiness to know this distinguished nobleman, or to have witnessed the admirable stewardship with which he fulfils the duties of his high station, as one entrusted by Providence with great possessions to be employed for the welfare of others, need not be told of his unwearied and patriotic exertions, to make a "smiling land" around him; and we rejoice, in this instance, to appreciate a new means for extending the sphere of his usefulness. For a long time attempts have been made to effect this desirable object; for it is generally felt that the introduction of coal, or any material of some instances last July, that a whole field the wild Highlands of Scotland, and the vast well, and, passing up Hudson Strait, would was found, in two or three days, to present bogs of Ireland, to start into manufacturing pro-

loughby has overcome every difficulty, and, by this simple machine, can convert the peat rapidly, and to any quantity, into a combustible fit for all the uses of coal, and, in some cases, being devoid of sulphur, superior to that in-valuable substance. We can hardly afford a sufficient idea of it without an engraving. The peat is cut and pressed into a chamber, upon which a powerful weight is made to descend. The moisture, squeezed out, runs through vertical grooves and is carried off, whilst, every time the incumbent weight descends, knives pass through these grooves, and keep them clean for the next operation. (Holes had been found to be inefficient, as the fibres soon stopped them up, and defeated the process.) At the bottom of the chamber a slide is withdrawn, and the solid peat is precipitated to any convenient receptacle. Being dried for a very short period, it welds iron, and is fit for all that coal furnaces can do. Penknives have been manufactured in this way; and the success of the averaging demonstrated to be complete. experiment demonstrated to be complete.

It is unnecessary to expatiate on the immense national result likely to flow from this improvement: the prosperity of Ireland, and the amelioration of the north of Scotland, are its ready and obvious consequences.

A machine for planing stone either for building or paving, also strikes us as exceedingly convenient, and of great practical utility in working, and finely, too, a hard and difficult material. It must save prodigious manual labour.

ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

" CAPTAIN BACK sailed on Tuesday se'nnight from Chatham, in command of his majesty's ship Terror, on his expedition to Wager river, on the south-west of Sir Thomas Ross's Welcome, with a crew of sixty men. The officers under him were: Lieutenant Smyth, who lately made an interesting excursion up the rivers Amazon and Negro, with Lieutenants Owen Stanley and Macmurdo, and Mr. Donovan as surgeon. His return may either be expected next November, or the same month in the next year." - Daily Papers.

The Nautical Magazine contains more detailed information on the same interesting sub-

ject; which we annex:
"The object of the present expedition may literally be considered to lie in defining the north-east extreme of the American continent. Until the arrival of Captain Back in England, from his land journey in search of Sir John Ross, we were to consider the western boundary of Prince Regent's Inlet as this northeastern extreme; but no sooner does Captain Back appear, than "the wide, the open sea, is reported some hundreds of miles to the southward and westward of that part of the arctic regions, and also that a tide was running into it from the westward. At page 623 of our last volume, the reader will find some account of the last discovery of Back; and it is for the purpose of tracing the shore of this "open sea," from the mouth of the river Back, to the eastward as far as Melville peninsula, and to the westward as far as Cape Turnagain, that the Terror has departed from England. Were we to hazard an opinion, we should say, that it appears likely that the land called North Somerset, by Parry, will be found to consist of a series of islands. Captain Back would shape his course for Cape Farewould then proceed to cross the isthmus, which separates them from the bottom of Prince Regent's Inlet. Two light boats will be conveyed across this Isthmus, one of which will proceed to explore the coast to the north-east, as far as the Strait of the Fury and Hecla, while the other will go west towards the mouth of the river Back. Thus, the southern shore of the Boothian Gulf will be defined, and thereby, also, the breadth of the Isthmus connected with Melville Peninsula, which separates it from the Atlantic waters. In the immediate neighbourhood of their proceedings, is the position of the magnetic pole; and the magnetic observations which will be obtained by Captain Back and his officers, will give additional interest to the results of this voyage. The time it may require to be performed in must remain uncertain, as it is more than probable that such discoveries may be made, either of a geographical or other nature, as will induce Captain Back to ANOTHER avail himself of the discretionary power invested in him of wintering in Wager river, in which case his return would be looked for by the end of next summer. He is accompanied by officers who are well qualified to assist him in his arduous enterprise. Lieutenants Smyth and Owen Stanley are officers already well known: the former, from his late journey from Lima to Para, and the latter from his surveys in the Mediterranean; and the services of Mr. Saunders, the master, will, no doubt, be turned to a good account, in the numerous scientific pursuits which will occupy the whole party, during their interesting voyage."

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

Oxford, June 3d .- The following degrees were con

rrea:—
Doctor in Medicine.—W. T. Cox, Pembroke College.
Doctor in Civil Law.—J. R. Kenyon, Fellow of All

Doctor in Assistence—W. J. R. Kenyon, Fellow of All Souls' College.

Bachelor in Divinity.—Rev. S. W. Cornish, Exeter College, Grand Compounder.

Masters of Arts.—H. J. Phillips, Worcester College, R. L. Roberts, St. John's College, Grand Compounders; Rev. R. Armitage, Worcester College; Rev. W. F. Smith, Trinity College; Rev. W. P. Pigott, New Inn Hall; Rev. H. H. Harrington, Magdalen Hall; Rev. W. A. Strange, Scholar of Pembroke College; Rev. W. P. Ward, Oriel College.

Bachelors of Arts.—J. E. Cox, All Souls' College; Hon. W. C. Talbot, S. P. Allen, Christ Church; E. C. Evans, Oriel College.

July.—The Rev. S. W. Cornish, now Master of the King's School of St. Mary Ottery, was admitted to the Degree of Doctor in Divinity, Grand Compounder.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Monday

Marylebone Literary, 8½ P.M.
J. G. Wood on Historical Architecture: and on the 18th, E. Cowper on Carving and Sculpture by Machinery.

Entomological.

he meetings are continued through the year, on the first Monday of each month.

Tuesday.

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Zoological.

The meetings are continued throughout the year: for general business on the first Thursday, and for scientific business on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

Royal Asiatic, 2 P.M.

Museum is open to the public every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from 11 till 4.

FINE ARTS.

THE LAWRENCE GALLERY.

The private view of the tenth, and, we grieve to say, the last, of these delicious and instructive exhibitions, was opened yesterday. A hundred original drawings, by Michael Angelo, of the seats of their gallant exploits, and a sadorned Mesars. Woodburn's Gallery, and dissummary of the lives and achievements of the globe. This is a literary curiosity, as well as

only indicate the fact, and defer remark till our next Gazette.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Death of the First-born. The Destroying Angel. Martin, Chevalier of the Order of Leopold,

WE have already noticed the outlines of these magnificent compositions. To those outlines Mr. Martin has superadded that grandeur and sublimity of effect by which all his works are lippe, king of the French; the second to the Rev. Dr. Croly.

My Sketch-Book, No. IX. G. Cruikshank.
London, 1836. Tilt.
ANOTHER of our humorous friend's happy

The " Pit, Boxes, and Gallery' a theatre is a splendid group, or rather series Whips," in the next print, with the slight note below, is true to life; and "Railway Shares," a cook handing a leg of mutton through the area-rails to a favoured competitor, no bad spec! The "three Mr. Rodds," and their misadventures in riding, shooting, and fishing (i.e. Nimrod, Ram-rod, and Fishing-rod), are also most ludicrous. "The Giraffes," to conclude, are altogether worthy of George's inimitable pencil: the one feeding on a parasol is an animal of taste and supreme bon ton.

The Library of the Graces. No. I.

THIS is a new candidate for fashionable, and more solid favour; for it aims at combining intellectual character with light and elegant reading. We dare not look at all the pretty faces, and charming dresses and undresses, which are to be seen in the plates; and as for the bonnets and caps, we can pronounce no opinion upon them: but the literary matter is very meritorious; and the following song, by the author of "Mephistophiles in England," together with its music, exceedingly pretty and

"I ask not for your heart — oh, no!
Now mine 'twill never be;
Its springs of love for others flow—
And leave despair for me,
Marie! Marie!
And leave despair for me! For why should I a gift require,
Whose worth from me hath flown?
I dare not now your heart desire;
Restore to me my own,
Marie! Marie!

Restore to me my own! Task not for your smiles—though well
I we known the charm they gave!
In Heav'n the sunshine loves to dwell—
But darkness fills the grave,
Marie! Marie!
Deep darkness fills the grave!

Then keep your heart secure, above
The reach of my fond fears:
Still keep your smiles for him you love—
1 ask but for your tears!
Marie! Marie! I ask but for your tears!

Biographical, Chronological, and Geographical Nelson and the Duke of Wellington. By William Henry Kebbel. Dickinson.

No. I. of the South Australian Gazette has

convenient, and, having secured the ship there, played the wonderful powers of the artist, and two distinguished warriors to whom they relate.

would then proceed to cross the isthmus, which his mastery over the human form: but we can They are well adapted for framing, and for ornamenting the breakfast-parlour of every true and loyal Englishman.

DRAMA.

of the First-born. The Destroying Designed and engraved by John Chevalier of the Order of Leopold, opera of I Briganti; which, from its success, was repeated on the following Saturday and Tuesday. It is a fine opera, with some splendid parts, and some of the sweetest passages we ever heard. To our minds, however, it is far too noisy-the crash of instruments and voices, distinguished, and which give them a character in parts of the opera, is perfectly stunning; so peculiarly their own. The first of these fine and to witness the efforts the performers are prints is dedicated to his majesty Louis Phi- obliged to make to be heard above, or equal with, the mass of violins, double-bass, &c. &c. is rather painful than pleasurable. If noise be the reigning taste, in I Briganti it may be gratified to the ears' content. Nothing confirms our opinion so strongly as the evident disinclination of all the principal singers to the sound of an encore. Grisi, Rubini, Tamburini, and Lablache, were, as they always are, perof groups, of the most amusing character. It is fect. The rapidity and melody with which like watching the passengers in a street, and fancying who and what they are: you have here plenty to speculate upon. The "Cockney dering what next will be done with the human voice. Nevertheless, we do not think I Briganti will be one of the very popular operas of the season. The ballet has fallen off consider. ably: even in the commencement of the season it was not so first-rate as we have been accustomed to see it at this house, but now it is poor indeed.

VARIETIES.

Literary Fund: Greenwich Meeting. - The social Greenwich meeting of the friends and supporters of this admirable Institution is appointed for Wednesday, when a strong muster is anticipated at the white-bait board. The four o'clock steamer, from Hungerford stairs, and the ready modes of returning to town, are great temptations to excursions of this kind. The member for Belfast, Mr. E. Tennent, whose literary talents are so justly prized, is expected to preside; and it is hoped that many of the stewards, &c. whose parliamentary duties prevented them from attending the anniversary, will find leisure to be present on this occasion.

Mr. Isaac Taylor, author of "Natural History of Enthusiasm," has, we observe, from a very able and spirited address to the magistrates, &c., become a candidate for the Chair of Logic in

the University of Edinburgh.

Giraffes.—The three Giraffes for the Surrey Zoological Gardens have been safely lodged there; we have not yet had time to visit these

interesting strangers.

Storm.—On Wednesday morning, soon after midnight, the metropolis, and its northern and western environs, were visited by one of the most severe storms which has been experienced for many years. The preceding day had been exceedingly sultry, the thermometer standing in the shade, at 83° and 84°; and in the sun, not against a wall, at 113°. The phenomena of lightning and thunder were very grand; but, we regret to say that, besides much injury to gardens, hot and green-houses, &c. &c., by the fall of hail-stones and pieces of ice, of extraordinary dimensions, several lives were lost

novelty, and a remarkable circumstance in the annals of periodical literature, worthy of our notice. The infant colony finds a newspaper a natural element for its prosperity!

Mdlle. Parigiani and Signor Marras' con-

cert, on the 30th ultimo, was a very favourable first attempt in that line, and gave much satisfaction to their numerous friends and admirers.

Irish Application of 'the Golden Rule,'
On unsuspecting Pat a Yorkshire wag—
One Timothy—had palm'd a worthless nag
As ateady, swift, sound wind and limb.
The cheat confessed. Pat made another buy,
And to remonstrance mildly said "Sir, I
Only did you as Tô be done by Tim."

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

We had fully intended this week to resume our notice of Wraxall's Posthumous Volumes, which merit, indeed, far more illustration than our space admits; but an accident to our notations forces upon us the brief neces-sity of only allowing them this hurried repetition of commendation to readers of every class.

In the Press.

The Book of Books; or, London as it is, and as it ought to be. Illustrated by George and Robert Cruik-shank, the late Robert Seymour, and G. W. Bonner.—London and all its Dangers, Frauds, Deceptions, and iniquities, by a Man about Town; and illustrated by Cruikshank.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

The Proofs of Infanticide Considered, by Wm. Cummin, M.D. 12mo. 3s. 6d. bds. — History of the Western Highlands and Isles of Scotland, by D. Gregory, 8vo. 14s. bds. — The Young Cook's Guide, by J. Roberts, 8vo. 14s. bds. — The Young Cook's Guide, by J. Roberts, 8vo. 14s. bds. — The Young Cook's Guide, by J. Roberts, 8vo. 14s. bds. — The Young Cook's Guide, by J. Roberts, 8vo. 14s. bds. — The Young Cook's Guide, by J. Roberts, 8vo. 14s. bds. — The Young Cook's Guide, by J. Roberts, 8vo. 16s. chost high the Young Cook's Guide, by J. Roberts, 8vo. 16s. chost high the Young Companion to Ditto, by A. De Morgan, 8vo. 3s. 6d.; royal 8vo. 5s. — Rev. J. B. Smith's Compendium of the Rudiments in Theology, 12mo. 10s. 6d. bds. — Slavery, by Wm. E. Channing, 12mo. 2s. 6d. cloth. — Flora History and Young Y. H. Gally Knight, Esq. M.P., post 8vo. 9s. 6d. bds. — Mrs. Armytage; or. Female Domination, 3 vol. 5d. bds. — Mrs. Trummer's History of England, post 8vo. 11s. 6d. bds. — Diary of a Desemuyée, 2 vols. post 8vo. 11s. bds. — Mrs. Trummer's History of England, chown and the Young You

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July.								
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Saturday 2		56		82	30.09		30:10	
Sunday 3	****	46		81	30-13		30:14	
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